

Habib back in Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Special American envoy to the Middle East Philip Habib returned here Sunday and Israeli Foreign Ministry officials said he would meet Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir early on Monday in Jerusalem. Mr. Habib has already been to Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Jordan on his present tour, aimed mainly at preserving the fragile ceasefire between Israel and Palestinian commandos in South Lebanon. He is due to return to Washington after his talks with Israeli leaders. Mr. Habib has already had one round of talks in Jerusalem early last week. Almost no details of the envoy's talks have been revealed, although Israel has repeatedly expressed its concern at what it describes as a massive build up of military strength by the Palestinian commandos in Lebanon, scene of bitter fighting last summer.

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JD 10,000 from King to families of bus victims

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has donated JD 10,000 to the families of the victims of the University of Jordan regatta bus accident which claimed nine lives on Feb. 26 in the Wadi Musa area. Seventeen others were wounded in the accident including the bus driver. Staff and students of the university were on a picnic in southern Jordan when their bus collided with an army vehicle and overturned killing nine of its passengers and wounding the other 17.

Iraqi leader hails Jordan's support

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's total support for Iraq in its national battle against the Iranians represents an example of nobility, fraternity and national solidarity in the face of challenges confronting the Arab Nation, according to Iraq's National Council's (parliament) Speaker Na'im Haddad. He included his statement in a cable which he sent to Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Bahjat Talhouni. Mr. Haddad also expressed hope for further strengthening of cooperation between the Iraqi and Jordanian parliament for the sake of serving Arab just causes and the liberation of Zionist-occupied Arab lands.

Iraqi planes attack Iranian positions

BEIRUT (R) — Iraqi aircraft launched successful attacks Sunday on Iranian positions in the central sector of the Gulf war front and returned to base safely, the Iraqi News Agency said on Sunday night. Quoting a military communiqué, it said 28 Iranians and nine Iraqis were killed in fighting over the past 24 hours.

Arafat meets Saudi leaders

RIYADH (A.P.) — Saudi Crown Prince Fahd and Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal conferred Sunday with Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), amid signs of heightened Saudi efforts to bring about a PLO dialogue with the U.S. administration. Mr. Arafat flew in for the meeting from Jeddah, where he has been participating in the current conference of the Islamic good offices committee on ending the Iran-Iraq war. An announcement on his meeting with Prince Fahd and Prince Saud did not give any word on what they discussed.

Israelis, French to hold talks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israel and France will hold talks in Paris next month to discuss the possible sale of a French nuclear reactor to Israel, an Israeli government official said Sunday. The negotiations, which will also cover arms sales, will be held by a joint economic commission which has not met since relations between the two countries deteriorated in 1967. The Israeli official told reporters the commission would meet on April 29 and 30 and that Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir would visit France in April or May. Mr. Shamir's visit and the reconvening of the commission were some of the results of French President Francois Mitterrand's three-day state visit to Israel earlier this week, the official added.

U.S. 'aids Iranian exiles'

NEW YORK (R) — The New York Times, quoting Western intelligence sources, said Sunday the United States was secretly aiding exiled Iranian paramilitary and political groups and was beaming radio propaganda into Iran. But the sources insisted that no effort was being made to overthrow or destabilize Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's fundamentalist Islamic government, the Times said. It quoted the sources as saying that the U.S. aim was to form Iranian exile factions and their supporters in Iran into a coalition which could influence Iran's future course if the opportunity arose.

Islamic mission, Iraqis hold Baghdad peace talks

BEIRUT (R) — An Islamic peace mission including three heads of state held talks with Iraqi leaders in Baghdad Sunday as part of a renewed campaign to end the deadlocked war between Iraq and Iran, now in its 18th month. The Iraqi News Agency quoted President Saddam Hussein as telling the five-man delegation that peace between his country and Iran had to be founded on "just and firm bases which have been frequently defined by Iraq," but he gave no details.

Iraq has been demanding full sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab Waterway and the return of disputed border areas as the price of peace.

Iran has refused to negotiate until all Iraq's forces have withdrawn from the strips of Iranian territory they occupied in the early weeks of the war.

This political deadlock has combined with a military stalemate to defeat repeated mediation attempts by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement.

A list issued by the agency showed that President Hussein was accompanied in Sunday's talks with the delegation by all the most important figures in the Iraqi government and the leadership of the ruling Baath Party.

The agency said the president also had a closed session with the mission's leader, President Ahmad Sekou Toure of Guinea. It said the mission later left Baghdad. Mr. Sekou Toure told reporters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on Saturday that the delegation planned to return to Jeddah after

visiting Iraq and would travel to Iran on Monday.

Mr. Sekou Toure said the Islamic mediators were not carrying any new peace proposals but would try to re-establish contacts with the two warring governments after a 10-month break in the Islamic mediation efforts.

The five-member peace mission includes Mr. Sekou Toure, Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, President Abdul Sattar of Bangladesh, Turkish Prime Minister Bulend Ulusu and the secretary-general of the organisation of Islamic conference, Habib Chatti.

The mission was chosen from a larger nine-man OIC committee during a meeting in Jeddah. Other members of the OIC committee are the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Yasser Arafat, and leading figures from Malaysia, Gambia and Senegal.

In Geneva, four members of the Non-Aligned Movement seeking an end to the Iran-Iraq war opened a two-day meeting Sunday and Indian Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao told Reuters their talks are going very well.

He said a statement could be expected on Monday on the talks, due to review developments since the group met here last March and consider fresh bids to ending the 18-month old war.

Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmeria, Farouk Khaddoumi, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Political Department, and Zambia's ambassador to the United Nations here also took part in the talks, he said.

GCC ministers confer

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (R) — The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia and its five allies in the Gulf Cooperation Council met in Riyadh on Sunday to consider plans for closer defence, security and economic relations.

They were also expected to try to defuse tension which surfaced last week between two council members when Qatar accused Bahrain of provocation in staging naval exercises near the disputed islands of Hawar, according to diplomats.

Saudi Arabia has tried in the past to reconcile conflicting claims

over the islands off the western coast of Qatar which are held by Bahrain.

The ministers, who also represent Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Oman, will review plans drawn up by defence ministers for a joint armaments factory and a collective air defence system.

The agenda includes proposals for a collective security pact. Saudi Arabia signed bilateral security agreements with all other members except Kuwait after Bahrain said in December it had foiled an Iranian-backed coup attempt.

Egyptians agree Sadat killers should die

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak, successor to the assassinated Anwar Sadat, has begun the task of deciding the fate of his predecessor's murderers.

A military tribunal, after a trial lasting more than three months, on Saturday sentenced five defendants to death for their part in Mr. Sadat's assassination at a military parade last October, and sent 17 others to jail for periods of between five years and life.

President Mubarak, in his capacity as supreme commander of the armed forces, now has 30 days in which to ratify the sentences of death, commute them or order a retrial for the defendants.

Egypt's state-supervised press on Sunday expressed approval of the death sentences, a view which was shared by many Egyptians

interviewed by Reuters in the streets of Cairo.

The Al Akhbar newspaper, in a frontpage editorial, said: "Oct. 6 will remain in our history as a day of sadness when a group of terrorists used their bullets in an attempt to impose chaos by toppling the rule of justice."

Of the sentences imposed, it said: "We hope that (they)... will serve notice on those who may be contemplating other acts of terrorism."

Many Egyptians interviewed by Reuters considered the death sentences "fair and acceptable."

"It is up to President Mubarak now to show his people that terrorism is unacceptable in Egypt by approving the sentences soon," said a shopkeeper in a bustling Cairo shopping centre.

King, citing end of Camp David, sees little hope for Middle East solution

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein said in an interview published Sunday that the Camp David Middle East peace process would be finished soon after Israel completed its withdrawal from the Sinai next month.

King Hussein also told U.S. News and World Report magazine he was interested in buying U.S. F-16 and F-5G jet fighters and air defence missiles.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger discussed weapon sales with the King during his visit to Jordan last month. The talks drew strong protests from Israel.

"I believe the end is in sight for Camp David with the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai," King Hussein said.

"Israel now says that the occupied territories belong to Israel. The Arabs say the occupation must end and the people granted self-determination. I cannot see how these two positions can be reconciled."

King Hussein said he believed President Reagan wanted peace in the Middle East, but did not have a clear policy on the region.

The King said Jordan needed modern weapons because its air force was falling behind those of other Middle East nations. He

said Jordan bought mobile air-defence missiles from the Soviet Union because the United States would not sell it any.

"The F-16 is certainly an aircraft we are interested in. Maybe a mix of F-16s and F-5Gs is something we might discuss. I am not prepared to go through a humiliating process to get these arms. But I am willing to put forward a very strong case, and I hope that Americans at all levels will recognise their national interests are served by our being friends," he said.

The United States has said no decision has been made on weapons sales to Jordan because Jordan had not made a formal request for arms. Any sales would need congressional approval.

The American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, a group which supports Israel, claimed in a statement that the sale of F-16s to Jordan would threaten Israel and jeopardise U.S. military security.

On the Gulf war, the King said that Iran is not only a threat to Iraq but to the whole Arab World. He cited how Israel was sending to Iran weapons and spare parts, and how it took a similar view of the issue of the U.S. hostages in Tehran to that of radical Arab states. Iraq, the King said, has put an end

to this kind of dangerous polarisation in the area, and hence (Iraq) must be supported.

In answer to a question whether allowing Jordanian volunteers to fight alongside Iraq and the formation of the Yarmouk Force were mere symbolic gestures or whether Jordan would actually take part in the war, the King said: "Iraq does not need any additional manpower, military or material assistance. Iraq will not lose the war. All we are doing is rendering moral support to a frontline state defending Arab interests. Had pan-Arab support been given since the beginning of the war, it would have ended by now."

Asked about Israel's policy in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, King Hussein said the situation in the occupied areas was unbearable. "The residents of the occupied areas are suffering and their basic human rights are denied. Israel has annexed Jerusalem and its suburbs, and these areas constitute one fifth of the entire West Bank. Israel is also working to expand its settlements, and intends to open the Med-Dead Canal to use its water to cool the new nuclear reactors which it intends to build in the occupied areas. All this clearly indicates that Israel

9 presumed dead in tanker blast

NEW YORK (R) — A 44,881-ton U.S.-registered oil tanker sank Sunday with nine of its 25 American crewmen missing and presumed dead after an explosion some 750 miles east of Bermuda, the U.S. Coast Guard reported. The 16 other crew of the tanker, Golden Dolphin, took to lifeboats and were picked up by the Swedish motor vessel Norrland at the scene after the explosion on Saturday night, a coast guard spokesman said. The Norrland continued its voyage after finishing a search for more survivors and was to drop the 16 men at Gibraltar on its way to Messina, Sicily. The Golden Dolphin was sailing empty from New Orleans to Port Sa'id, Egypt, to pick up cargo, the Coast Guard said. The captain, who was not identified, was quoted as saying he believed the nine missing men were killed in the blast, which was followed by a fire.

W. Bank protests continue

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli security forces detained a number of Arab students Sunday at the Hebron Polytechnic college after dispersing a demonstration in the schoolyard, a military spokesman said here.

He said the soldiers moved in after students hoisted a Palestinian flag on the school roof.

The students were protesting at an incident on Saturday in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, in which two pupils were wounded when soldiers opened fire on stone-throwing demonstrators.

Elsewhere in the West Bank, soldiers fired warning shots when their jeep was attacked in the crowded Casbah of Nablus. A military spokesman said an Arab youth was "slightly scratched".

In another dispatch from the

occupied Arab areas, it was reported that Mohammad Ali Hassan Al 'Amaryeh, head of the so-called League of the Villages of Al Burj and Dura in the Hebron area, has resigned from his post.

Citing as reasons for his resignation, Mr. 'Amaryeh said that he has "discovered the dangerous political role which the Israeli-supported Village Leagues is performing in the occupied Arab areas."

Israel had set up the Village Leagues, but found few collaborators from West Bankers because of the leagues' suspect goals, particularly in helping Israel achieve its expansionist objectives and carry out its plots against the Arab residents and lands in the occupied territories. Mr. 'Amaryeh said.

Guatemala votes amid bombings

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — Guatemalans began voting Sunday to choose a new government amid a series of bombings blamed by police on leftist guerrillas who have denounced the election as a fraud.

The election was called to replace the three-party military-civilian administration which took power after the last general election in 1978.

Since then, the Central American country has become a battleground between the guerrillas and the armed forces, backed by rightist extremists.

Human rights groups say at least 3,500 people were killed in political violence last year.

Police said eight small bombs exploded overnight in the capital before voting began and occasional bursts of machinegun fire were heard in the city centre. There were no reported casualties.

Heavily-armed troops in full battle dress guarded voting areas Sunday and military patrols swept through the main streets.

Although voters crowded into some polling areas this morning, it was difficult to estimate the strength of the turnout.

Observers said the turnout was not expected to top 35 per cent. The guerrillas, based in the heavily wooded countryside, have called on voters to abstain or cast spoiled ballots.

OPEC opts for cuts to defend oil prices

DOHA, Qatar (R) — OPEC has decided to try to coordinate cuts in its oil production to defend current prices in a long-awaited response to the glut in the world market which it expects will ease in two or three months.

Key oil ministers struck an informal deal on these lines in talks here over the weekend after Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, on Friday night said it was cutting its own output ceiling from 8.5 to 7.5 million barrels daily.

Ministers of nine of the 13 members of OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) then worked out the essentials of an accord, to be clinched at an emergency OPEC conference which they scheduled for March 19 in Vienna.

The Iraqi minister, Tayeh Abdul Karim, told reporters Sunday they took the new Saudi figure, then considered output cuts offered by others, and were able to fix a new ceiling for total OPEC output of 18.5 million barrels daily—down from about 20 million now.

Ministers, including Ahmad Zaki Yamani of Saudi Arabia, said the benchmark price of \$34 for a barrel of Saudi light crude, on which all OPEC quotas are aligned, would not change until at least the end of the year.

In London, however, Western oil industry executives said that defending prices might depend on whether OPEC had got its sums right, in matching supply to demand, and whether it could fairly carve up its dwindled market among all 13 members in the formal bargaining at Vienna.

A Saudi Arabian royal communiqué on Saturday acknowledged that OPEC was in trouble, now that a recession-led plunge in world demand has pushed its output to levels lower than any recorded since the 1960s.

The Saudis blamed the situation on unrestrained oil price increases led by OPEC militants in the tight market of 1979-80. There was now a rush to offer secret discounts by those exporters hardest hit by buyer defections, the Saudis said, and if this continued the whole oil price system would crash.

Cash-pinched exporters would have to be patient while the glut lasted, said the royal communiqué.

Oil industry sources say Iran, down 5-4, has joined a price retreat by non-OPEC sellers such as Britain, which has cut North Sea prices by \$5.50 a barrel this year. Other one-time OPEC "hawks" like Libya are discounting, buyers say.

Assad charges Iraq, U.S. encouraged Hama rebels

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad was carried through the streets of Damascus on the shoulders of his supporters Sunday after a speech in which he claimed that Iraq and the United States are encouraging sabotage in Syria.

Tens of thousands of Syrians turned out to hear the president speak from the balcony of the capital's guest palace and then marched with him in a procession to the People's Assembly (parliament).

In his speech celebrating the anniversary of the 1963 revolution which brought the ruling Baath Party to power, President Assad claimed that Iraq had smuggled arms and explosives with help from the U.S. to the Muslim Brotherhood in the Syrian town of Hama.

The brotherhood staged a bloody revolt in the town last month in which, according to the Syrian government, a number of Baath Party members and their families were killed.

The brotherhood has been blamed for two recent car bomb attacks in Damascus — one, outside a recruiting office last November, killed more than 90 people, and

the other, last month, damaged the offices of the Baath Party newspaper Al Baath and the Ministry of Information.

President Assad said the brotherhood was "a gang of reactionary hirelings, who commit their crimes in exchange for dollars and dinars."

The United States had urged them to act because it was angered by a U.N. General Assembly resolution calling for sanctions against Israel following its annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights, he said.

The Syrian leader mocked the annexation of the Golan Heights as an "historical farce" and said Israeli measures against the people there would be futile in the end.

The Druze inhabitants of the Golan have been on strike for three weeks, demanding the repeal of the annexation bill and the release of their leaders from detention.

"It's not a question of (identity) cards, it's a question of national allegiance," President Assad said. He said Syria would win back every Arab right in full and liberate every inch of the occupied heights.

By Tom Baldwin
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Men with fashionably-dressed women next to them piloted growling sports cars up steep, winding roads Sunday to enjoy a Lebanese rite of spring, a speedy drive through the mountains.

Joggers bounded along Beirut's seafront promenade and sportsmen lined up at the horse-race track to wager together in one of the few, if only, places where the residents of Lebanon, no matter what their politics or religion, gather to have fun instead of shooting at one another.

There appeared to be little outward concern about the wave of unexplained bombings that has killed 28 people and wounded at least 105 in less than two weeks.

The latest explosion came at mid-morning Saturday. A bomb-laden car had been left on the crowded main road to the airport south of the city.

Saturday is a particularly busy day. Farmers use the road to deliver goods to the city. More than the usual number of airliners arrive and depart.

The road along the Mediterranean is lined with shanty-like shops where Palestinian refugees and Lebanese residents of the nearby slums turn out for their weekly shopping. The crowds create traffic jams. It's a high-volume day for the street-urchin beggars.

Seven people died in the explosion and 20 suffered injuries. Police said more than a dozen cars were blown up, most of the victims were travellers passing through the once elegant Saint Simon district.

Despite the bombings and the virtual certainty there would be more, the bombings-hardened people here were going about their business.

"No one likes it," said schoolteacher Maj'da Sabrey as she prepared for some early-morning tennis. "What am I supposed to

do? Stay inside all day?"

A twin car-bombing in a crowded bazaar 11 days ago killed 13 people and wounded more than 30. Merchants the next day shut their shops in West Beirut to protest the attacks.

Restaurant owner Joseph Habash said after Saturday's blast that: "We can't have a strike every time there is a bombing. We would go out of business."

The sharp crackle of automatic weapons erupted around West Beirut Sunday. Residents were unsure if it was another of the so many unexplained street battles or simply celebrants at a wedding.

"Who cares, as long as nobody shoots at me?" Asked a young Lebanese man who was setting out with friends to enjoy a motorcycle ride along the coastal highway north of the capital.

Twenty-two time bombs have detonated here in the past 24 days, all of them in West Beirut or the northern part of Tripoli, which is overwhelmingly Muslim.

No one issue was placing the explosives. A top aide to Palestine Liberation Organisation chief Yasser Arafat on Thursday blamed Lebanon's rightists.

Salah Khalaf, who is code-named Abu Iyad and serves as Arafat's security chief, said Israeli agents here, along with the rightist Falange Party militia, are responsible.

Abu Iyad threatened the bombings would spread to the Christian-controlled areas of East Beirut and the mountainous Lebanese hinterland. "Blasts will spread everywhere," he said.

The Lebanese army and national police are helpless to stop the fighting or deter the bombings. Their authority was eroded by the 1975-76 civil war. The vacuum was filled by more than 40 private armies, along with the armed wings of the eight PLO factions and the 22,000 Syrian soldiers who are assigned to restricted parts of Lebanon as peacekeepers

policing the aftermath of the war.

Explosions have even become mildly profitable to some Lebanese. Security forces pay a reward of about 100 Lebanese pounds, just under \$20, to callers who tip them to rigged autos. In these times of almost daily explosions, telephone lines to the police are busy.

As unexplained as the bombings are, the question of which group or groups is responsible is surprisingly absent from the everyday concerns of many people here.

Children playing in the streets, the joggers, the older men sitting in the sun in front of the cafes. These are signs of the fatalism.

Adjusting the rear-view mirror of his German-made sports car as he set off for the mountains, importer Farouk Khallaf dismissed the notion of anxiety.

"It is not a fun thing to worry about the bombs," he said. "So I don't."

NATIONAL

Confusion and controversy cloud community colleges

By Dina Matar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A storm of controversy has arisen over a High Court of Justice ruling passed late last month, blocking the implementation of Ministry of Education decisions on community colleges.

The court ruling annulled decisions taken and regulations adopted by the ministry since last October, on the grounds that such decisions are the exclusive prerogative, under a 1981 decree, of the Higher Council of Education. The ministry had decided to take into its own hands the affairs of community colleges in Jordan, in view of the fact that the Higher Council of Education has not yet been set up.

Ministry decisions limited the period of study at all community colleges — private and public — to two years, irrespective of the field of specialisation. Programmes were geared to meet graduation requirements in two years' time. The ministry also set up a comprehensive community college examination, which was given for the first time last year.

Students undertaking engineering and paramedical courses felt that the new regulations were unfair. Some had to cram their courses of study into one year to be able to meet all requirements for their graduation.

On the other hand, some educators contended that the ins-

titution of the comprehensive community college examination in 1981 was illegal since, as one said, "programmes and all decisions related to community colleges are the prerogative of the Higher Council of Education."

Some students felt that their studies were jeopardised by the new regulations, and they decided to do something about them. According to one member of the High Court of Justice, "The students are justified, and accordingly won their lawsuit against the Ministry of Education."

He added that the court decision blocking the ministry's actions was "completely valid and constitutional."

Advocate Basel Boustani told the Jordan Times: "The ruling was completely in favour of the students, since according to the constitution and the education law, all regulations (on community colleges) adopted by the Ministry of Education are unconstitutional and null."

Nonexistent council

In 1981 the cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, issued a decree to the effect that all higher educational institutions in the country — both community colleges and universities — are the responsibility of an appointed Higher Council of Education, and not of the Ministry of Education. The decree stipulated that the council would be chaired by the

prime minister and composed of representatives of Jordanian universities, community colleges, the Ministry of Education and the National Planning Council; and three other members to be appointed by royal decree. The council's secretary general would have ministerial rank and authority.

But, a year after the cabinet decree was issued, no Higher Council of Education had yet been formed. Government officials who spoke to the Jordan Times did not give any specific reasons for this lapse. Some observed, however, that the delay in forming the council was mainly due to the general laxity of procedures in the country.

Before the decree was issued, all post-secondary institutes in the country were under the purview of the Ministry of Education.

Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal, who became the target of a heavy attack after the court decision, was quoted as saying that his ministry's decisions last year had been absolutely necessary.

"These regulations ensure a smooth educational process, and are vital for the integration of the educational system in the country," Dr. Tal was quoted as saying.

Officials from the Ministry of Education told the Jordan Times that the ministry had not been out of bounds when it acted. "The ministry, in the absence of a responsible body, just took things in

hand, to coordinate efforts to improve the competence of the educational system," one said. He added that the ministry had decided to enact these regulations and procedures in a bid to restore what he called the lost credibility of community colleges.

Over the past two years, community colleges have mushroomed. There are now 28 such institutes in Jordan. Ministry officials contended that some colleges, with profit foremost in their minds, have employed unqualified teachers. The situation has become chaotic, they say, although all teachers have to get a permit from the ministry before actually starting work.

It seems that the Ministry of Education did not foresee the obstacles that could be posed by legal technicalities before it moved to correct the situation, initiating the programmes which have caused all the controversy. Zouqan Hindawi, a former minister of education and president of the board of trustees of the Arab Community College in Amman, told the Jordan Times that the obvious loophole had been the ministry's decision to take things into its own hands, "although the Jordanian constitution is clear concerning that point."

He said that the controversy first arose when the ministry, heedless of students' protests, had decided to reduce the period of study in all fields to two years only,

and changed some curricula: "Some students who had already enrolled the year before felt cheated, and had to cram their programmes into the space of one year." A lack of the right books was another problem, Mr. Hindawi said.

The situation should be sorted out legally and soon, he asserted, especially since many students have become very confused. "Either a Higher Council of Education should be formed immediately, or the decree issued by the cabinet last year should be nullified," he affirmed.

He said he favours the formation of a council explaining that the Ministry of Education has enough responsibilities of its own,

"since it caters to more than a third of the Jordanian population."

A Higher Council of Education, representing all educational bodies in the country, would be the ideal solution to a problem which has grown worse over the years, Mr. Hindawi said. He said that the council would not only take care of community college and universities, "but would also pool efforts, plan ahead, enhance studies and finance higher education institutes in the country."

Mr. Hindawi added that the council, "which would comprise highly qualified educators and administrators, will eventually lead to a better educational system in Jordan."

ARE YOU...

Staging a play? Putting on a concert? Delivering a lecture? Organising any non-profit activity open public?

Do you have any kind of event to announce Jordan Times' readers? The What's Going On is always open to receive entries, preferably written in English or Arabic... free of charge. Entries should be received at the Jordan office, by hand or by mail, at least 24 hours before scheduled event. Let us know!

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- * Multimedia exhibition of contemporary American art, at the American Centre. Ends today.
- * Islamic literature, films and posters, at the University of Jordan.
- * Architecture en Terre Crue (architecture in unbaked earth), at the French Cultural Centre.

Meeting

- * American Women of Amman meet at the Marriott Hotel from 4-6 p.m. All Americans and wives of Americans are welcome.

Today's Weather

There will be a rise in temperature, with light and variable in Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Overnight low	Daytime h
Amman	5	17
Aqaba	10	22
Deserts	4	21
Jordan Valley	10	23

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Aqaba 22. Hu readings: Amman 63 per cent, Aqaba 43 per cent.

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And provide technical, marketing, training services

Alia to manage Sierra Leone Airways

By Suzanne Zu'mut-Black
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Sierra Leone Airways and Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, concluded an agreement Sunday according to which Alia will manage the national airline of the African state.

During a two-day visit to Jordan, Sierra Leone Transport and Communications Minister Solomon Pratt met with His Majesty King Hussein, Minister of Transport Ali Subeimat and Alia President and Chairman Ali Gbandour.

Mr. Gbandour told the Jordan Times that according to this agreement, Alia will be providing technical, marketing and training services to the management of the Sierra Leone Airways.

Mr. Gbandour made it clear that the programme aims at eventual self-sufficiency in the airline to run itself.

The 24-year old Sierra Leone Airways with a fleet of two Trilander and one Boeing 707 has a staff of over 200. "We don't have the expertise to manage it," Mr. Pratt, who is also a member of parliament, explained to the Jordan Times.

"We are satisfied that Alia has the necessary qualified per-

sonnel," he added, mentioning that Sierra Leone has an influential Jordanian community.

Mr. Pratt, who had been on a tour of all the Amman airport training facilities, said that the programme will aim at training instructors from his airline, who will eventually take over the training of their compatriots.

The minister explained that instructors will be trained in Amman in varying aviation fields, including flying, engineering, maintenance, cabin and ground services and control tower operation.

"It is important for a Third World country to have its technicians and experts trained within the country," Mr. Pratt emphasised and went on to elaborate that this will provide the right atmosphere and orientation and will not allow a nostalgia to go back to the country of training, and consequently a "brain drain."

Besides the training, Mr. Pratt expects Alia to send a management team to Sierra Leone along with the necessary management support.

"This will include the necessary facilities such as ticketing and computerised reservation," he said, expressing the hope that the final arrangement will be made with the Alia president in Sierra Leone after the agreement has been put in its final legal form.

Juweideh's modern flour mill starts experimental operation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub announced Sunday that the ministry's flour mill at Juweideh has begun experimental operations.

When fully operational, the modern mill is expected to produce flour which, in addition to that produced by the other existing mills in the country, will meet Jordan's requirements of this commodity, the minister said.

Addressing a meeting of the ministry's governorate directors, Mr. Ayyoub said that the new mill should be able to produce a new type of flour that will ensure good quality bread better than the existing kind now produced by local bakeries.

The Ministry of Supply, he said, is concerned with producing good quality bread and is endeavouring to develop an automated bread-production process.

For this purpose, the ministry has announced a tender for the construction of three automated bakeries in Amman, Irbid and Zarqa, and the government continues to subsidise flour and wheat, the minister added.

According to Mr. Ayyoub, the Ministry of Supply is also in-

terested in constructing more warehouses in Amman and Irbid and



Ibrahim Ayyoub

a fodder factory developing Amman Municipality's slaughterhouse and constructing a new one for poultry and meat, as well as constructing a 6,000 tonne capacity cold storage facility at Juweideh.

At the meeting, which was attended by the ministry's undersecretary, Mr. Mohammad Al Saqqaf, discussion also dealt with the green vendors along roads within the Amman municipal boundaries. It was agreed that contacts will be made with the municipality to ensure that these vendors sell at prices set by the Ministry of Supply.

Personnel affairs seminar opens

AMMAN (Petra) — A month-long seminar on personnel affairs in government departments was opened at the Institute of Public Administration Sunday. The 47 participants in the seminar will receive lectures on the basics of administration, personnel affairs, job descriptions and classification, and wages and salaries. They will also study legislation pertaining to personnel affairs in public institutions with the aim of raising the standard of the heads of personnel sections taking part in the seminar.

Hammad Basin countries to meet in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates from Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Syria will start a three-day meeting in Amman on Mar. 20 to follow up discussions on the development of the Hammad Basin which borders on the four countries, according to Mr. Ahmad Al Kallani, director of the Natural Resources Authority's Water Resources Department.

Mr. Kallani returned from Damascus Sunday where he took part in a seminar on the subject.

The seminar which lasted several days discussed topics connected with preparing a comprehensive atlas for the Arab World, which would define hydrological, geological, vegetational, animal and demographic features of Arab countries, and means of facilitating the flow of information among the four Arab states participating in the joint project.

A study for developing the Hammad Basin project is being carried out by the Damascus-based Arab Centre for the Study of Dry Regions and Arid Territories.

According to Mr. Kallani, the projected Amman seminar is designed as a first step for discussing bases for storing information that will later be programmed for future use.

Irbid's budget stands at JD 1.85m

IRBID (Petra) — Irbid Municipality's budget for 1982 amounted to JD 1,850,000, of which JD 700,000 are allocated for the surfacing of roads, JD 100,000 for pavements, JD 300,000 for the acquisition of land and the rest for health services.

More phosphates carried by rail

AMMAN (Petra) — The quantity of phosphates carried by rail to the Port of Aqaba rose by 225,416 tons last year over the figure reached during the preceding year of 1980. According to a statistical report of the port's department, 1,563,296 tons of phosphates were transported last year.

Jordan's women pioneers to be honoured Mar. 27

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Social Development will organise a celebration on Mar. 27, in cooperation with the Federation of Jordanian Women in observance of Women's Day.

At the celebration, Jordanian women pioneers in social and economic activities will be honoured.

The ministry said it will issue a special book containing biographies of these pioneers.

A ministry statement said the pioneers will be nominated by the various unions and associations with which they are affiliated. The honoured women will receive token gifts in recognition of their efforts, the statement said.

Local poultry, cattle firm gets JD 235,000 loan

AMMAN (Petra) — A local cattle and poultry firm will get a JD 235,000 syndicated loan to expand its activities, in accordance with an agreement signed at the Industrial Development Bank (IDB) here Sunday.

The loan from IDB and Arab Investment Bank, will be used to finance the construction of a factory for manufacturing concentrated animal feed.

The projected JD 270,000 factory will have a 5,000 tonne annual production capacity.

The company also has plans for producing veterinary medicine and construction poultry farms for producing eggs and fowl and cattle farms to produce dairy products.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Social Security to Jordanian expatriates

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Social Security Corporation will extend its services to cover about 400,000 Jordanian citizens currently working in the Arab countries as of the second half of 1982, Al Ra'i newspaper reported Sunday. The paper quoted Ministry of Labour officials as saying that this was one of the subjects discussed by Labour Minister Jawad Al Anani during his recent tour of a number of states in the Arabian Gulf. Inclusion in the social security scheme for Jordanians working abroad will be voluntary, the officials said.

Christmas Island mosque gets \$1,000

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has made a \$1,000 donation to help finance the construction of a mosque for the Muslim community of the Indian Ocean "Christmas" Island, which is administered by Australia, a spokesman said Sunday. The donation came in response to a request by Western Australia's governor, made through the Jordanian embassy in Canberra, he added. The ministry sent a memorandum to the Mecca-based World Islamic League requesting further contributions for this project, the spokesman said.

Shammout, Japan envoy discuss ties

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministry of Foreign Affairs Secretary General Amer Shammout received at his office Sunday Japanese Ambassador to Jordan Fuyima Okada. They discussed ways of developing bilateral relations.

Heliports for hospitals mooted

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas said Sunday that procedures are being adopted to provide all government hospitals with heliports. Dr. Malhas was quoted by the local press as saying that studies are under way for establishing these landing facilities in major hospitals and medical centres in the country. He added that the Ministry of Health will expropriate lands for this purpose.

2 injured in Mafraq shootout

AMMAN (J.T.) — A man, identified as A.M., shot M.J., 35 years of age, and H.S., 30 years of age, while they were sitting in a store in the main street in Mafraq, Al Ra'i newspaper reported Sunday. The two victims received a number of wounds and were rushed to Princess Basma Hospital in Irbid for treatment. The 21-year-old culprit was apprehended along with the alleged murder weapon, Al Ra'i said. Mafraq Prosecutor General Mohammad Al Shiyab and Police Director Youssef Al Qudah will investigate the motives for this incident, the paper added.

Yarmouk start language courses

IRBID (Petra) — Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran opened Sunday a new programme by the university's Languages Centre aimed at teaching English, French and German to the local community. A total of 260 participants are taking part in the three-month courses.

Information section for Bashir Hospital

AMMAN (Petra) — Al Bashir Hospital in Jabal Al Ashrafiyeh has established an information service to answer enquiries about

patients being treated at the hospital. Hospital Director Ibrahim Al Shami said that citizens can visit this section and enquire about the health and progress of their relatives or friends from its staff who will be furnished with records on each case. The section, which is to remain open throughout the day will also provide visitors with pamphlets on health matters and information on visiting patients, Dr. Shami said.

7 medical centres to be established

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Health will establish seven medical centres during 1982 in Jubeiha, Khaldia, Wadi Seer, Husseiniyeh, Hasa, Umm Al Basatin and North Hashimi, Al Ra'i newspaper reported Sunday. The paper quoted ministry officials as saying that the ministry will establish another six centres in 1983 in other parts of the country. The ministry will also set up three modern and fully equipped laboratories in Amman, Irbid and Aqaba for testing of foods and drinking water and other medical services.

JD 5,000 donated to victims' families

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian banking sector has contributed a total of JD 5,000 to families of University of Jordan students and staff members who were victims of a bus accident on Feb. 26 on the Wadi Musa road. Ten people died and 17 were injured in the mishap.

Karak, Ma'an training courses start

KARAK (Petra) — A training course for vocational teachers in Karak Governorate began at the education department here on Sunday. The aim of the 10-day course, in which 300 teachers are taking part, is to improve vocational performance and to raise the standards of the participants to enable them to achieve the goals of vocational education in a practical way. On the other hand, a course for beginner scouts leaders began in Ma'an Governorate on Sunday. The aim of the five-day course is to teach the participants how to organise schools camps. Also a three-day course for doctors working at health centres in Karak and Ta'ila began here on Sunday. Lectures by specialists on health affairs will be delivered during the course. On the other hand, study began at the assistant nurses school in the Karak government hospital on Sunday. Karak Governorate Health Director Fawwaz Halaseh said 29 students from the various parts of the governorate are taking part in the 18-month course.

Housing survey started in Jordan Valley

NORTH SHUNEH (Petra) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) on Sunday embarked on a survey of housing developments in the Northern Jordan Valley to identify the inhabitant's needs and requirements of the region of services and public utilities. The survey covers the areas of Wadi Al Yabes, Al Mashareh, Tal Al Arab'in, Al Manshiyeh, Al Balawneh, Ma'ath and Al Midraj.

Jordan Valley farmers get loans

NORTH SHUNEH (Petra) — The Cooperatives Federation branch in the Northern Jordan Valley has approved loans totalling JD 5,550 to farmers in the Jordan Valley region. The loans will benefit seven farmers who will use the money to finance the construction of greenhouses and irrigation canals.



It pays to advertise in the J.T.

Four-and-a-half year old Yorkshire terrier Whisky was this week reunited with its owner, nine-year-old Camille Atallah Doany (above), after a separation of two days. Getting lost on one of his adventurous trips from home in Shmeisani, Whisky was luckily found in Jabal Amman by a dog lover, who wanted to be identified only as Fereshteh, who advertised the details in the Jordan Times on Wednesday. Whisky reminded her of a

terrier of her own she had lost a few years back. "I received a number of calls. It seems many people had lost their terriers," Ms. Fereshteh told the Jordan Times. Whisky, however, was back home to his grateful family, Camille, Atallah and Samia Doany, over whom he made a great fuss when they appeared at the finder's house. (Photo by Suzanne Zu'mut-Black)

Azraq reserve to be boosted as tourist attraction

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) board has drawn up a plan aimed at organising and managing Al Azraq Aquatic Nature Reserve and supplying it with public utilities and tourist facilities in a bid to transform it into an important tourist attraction.

The plan, worked out in cooperation with the International Fund for the Conservation of Nature, requires from the Department of Antiquities to carry out excavations designed to unearth and restore an ancient Roman wall and pools found at Al Azraq reserve.

The Ministry of Tourism, on the other hand, will establish tourist utilities and special places for vacationers, while the Forestry Department will plant forest trees in the region.

Out of the 14,000 dunums within the reserves' boundary, 200

have been assigned as a vacation ground, which is to be supplied with various means of convenience and necessary services. Part of the reserve will be used for scientific research.

In 1977, the Ministry of Agriculture assigned the 14,000 dunums of land at Al Azraq Reserve

for the RSCN to set up an aquatic nature reserve, which is considered Jordan's second largest after the Shomari wild-life reserve.

RSCN has made studies and submitted reports to the government on the establishment of reserves in Jordan.

A WORD OF THANKS

Nasri Atallah and his sister Marousia Zimmerman would like to extend a word of thanks and appreciation to all those who presented their condolences on the death of their father, the late:

Attorney Fouad Bishara Atallah

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DE FACTONOMICS

Speculators vs. spectators

By T. A. Jaber

With the expansion of the Jordanian economy in the last ten years and the increased economic and financial institutions a serious development has occurred which affects directly income and wealth distribution in the country.

Hundreds of millions of dinars were and are still being invested in real estate transactions annually. Last year, land sales were worth of about JD 200 million and it seems to be on the rise. The direct impact of land speculation was the enormous jump in land prices and thus the inflated value of the average transaction.

Original land-owners got more income but possibly less wealth unless they had reinvested their cash. Some others have made considerable capital gains out of land speculation. The results of the past eight years of active land spec-

ulations are:

- 1- The rise of new high-income groups that are composed of old land owners and land transactors.
- 2- The formation of financial, investment and other institutions that muster more funds and compete with individual land buyers.
- 3- The rise of land value to such high levels that land has become beyond the reach not only of the low-income brackets but even those of middle income and the new-comers to the labour market.
- 4- The average person meets inordinate difficulty before he can own his house or apartment particularly in Amman, unless he resorts to

heavy, long-term and costly borrowing.

Speculation has recently moved into the shares market in the Amman Financial Market. The total value of transactions may reach this year JD 200 million. As in land, speculators in shares are no longer individuals but mostly institutions. They have large loose funds to dominate the AFM.

In both cases of land and shares speculation, the government is charging a fee on the value of transactions. A capital gains tax is going to be introduced on land transactions.

Speculation in shares has one overall advantage for the economy. It provides the mechanism through which new industrial and other investments can be financed and

even over-subscribed as recently demonstrated. The AFM can and should provide an incentive to transform a good idea into an actual project.

On the other hand, speculation in shares involves more technicalities than land speculation which makes a lot of people loathe to participate. In both cases the number of these spectators tends to increase due either to their income limitations or to their limited knowledge of the market.

The income and wealth gap between speculators and spectators may thus widen even with the possibility of presenting to the small saver the opportunity to buy some shares. Social institutions should be established soon in parallel to the financial ones.

The social development bank which the Social Security Cor-

poration is planning to create would have an important role to play in narrowing the said gap and accordingly maintaining social harmony. Any delay in its establishment would not be in the national interest.

More efforts should be directed by the Housing Bank to low-income housing. In addition to funds lent through the Housing Corporation, the Bank should study other approaches including the possibility of going directly into building housing projects for the low and middle income groups.

We follow land and shares speculation with enthusiasm and some concern. Corrective measures related to their impact on wealth and income redistribution should be taken. Otherwise, we might end up with many more spectators and few speculators.

Israel vs. peace

WE HAVE always maintained that the main stumbling block in the way of peace is Israel's intransigence and its reluctance to join in earnest any process aimed at establishing comprehensive peace in the region.

The reason, we believe, has less to do with Israel's fear of an Arab invasion and more to do with Israel's fear of peace. Israel has always capitalised on an image it created of itself in the West, that of a small society striving to create a Western-style democracy while surrounded by large and powerful Third World nations that await the first opportunity to pounce on their poor defenceless neighbour to destroy what has already been built.

It is this image, with the memory of the Nazi holocaust and numerous other pogroms fresh in European minds, that has induced the West to give its full backing to Israel whether military, financial, or moral. Let peace prevail in the region and the whole edifice collapses. Israel will no longer be in any danger, and hence the huge easy-term loans and grants for military and economic development will be harder to justify to the Western taxpayer. Israel will be just another country expected to manage as best as it can with what resources it has, a drastic blow to its economy which is already in tatters.

Furthermore, with no "threat poised at its doorstep", Israel will be at pains to justify its persecution of Arabs under its rule. It is already plain that Israel cannot remain a democracy and a Zionist entity with a Jewish majority. It will have to make the choice between abandoning its Zionist dogma or declaring itself openly to be what it already is, a racist state like Rhodesia and South Africa.

This explains not only Israel's response to the Fahd peace plan, but also its attempts to dislodge the Arabs of the West Bank.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Puppet on the chain

AL RA'I: Yitzhak Shamir hastened to exploit President Mitterrand's visit to Israel in a way that harmed France's status as a state and a member in the United Nations. Shamir said that the visit proved that U.N. resolutions calling for boycotting Israel are worthless. He explained the visit as a French "defiance" to U.N. General Assembly resolution calling for boycotting Israel for annexing the Syrian Golan Heights.

His explanation means that France does not consider the annexation of the Golan Heights as an action worthy of boycotting Israel. Shamir was also careful to link the visit with Israel's request for France to supply it with a nuclear reactor and to help it resume its relations with African States. Shamir did not exclude the possibility that France would supply Israel with weapons in the future in violation of the French policy adopted by the late President de Gaulle.

This statement by Shamir reminds us of President Mitterrand's predeparture statement about the French commitments to Israel. One wonders whether these commitments include condoning Israel's annexation of Arab lands, helping it to re-enter Africa and supplying it with French weapons and a French nuclear reactor. The image Shamir gave to the visit was a sad one which would certainly shed doubts on France's intentions and role in the region.

Paris is the only side that can change the features of this image if it cares to do this. This change must not be shown in flowery words but in real actions which should prove that France does not accept the role detailed by Shamir.

Villagers will remain resolute

AL DUSTOUR: The villagers and farmers in our occupied territories are facing a Zionist conspiracy aimed at isolating them from the social and national forces that support them to remain steadfast in face of the racist onslaught of expansion. The Israeli enemy is doing its best to evict the Palestinian farmer from his land and from his village in order to build more Israeli settlements on our occupied lands.

Our steadfast people in the occupied territories have so far withstood this racist onslaught of expansion and foiled all conspiracies. We are very sure that our people will be able to overcome the new conspiracy of trying to establish imaginary village leagues. Israel is doing its best to Judaize and usurp Arab lands. Therefore, it is unbelievable that these village association are established to defend the farmers' interests and security.

Israel is practising the policy of divide and rule by resorting to some corrupt villagers in order to sink the villages, particularly because all its attempts to achieve its goals have failed. The Israelis are trying to old British mandate methods by creating differences between our people who must take advantage of past experience to confront occupation and foil its conspiracies.

This conspiracy of village associations is the last episode of the series of hostile conspiracies against the steadfastness of our people. A great number of people tried to deceive our people but failed. We greet all the honest and steadfast people living on our land who will triumph sooner or later.

Dilemma of the orphaned Jews

By Francis Ghiles

The 450,000 Israelis of Moroccan origin make up the most important ethnic group in Israel and Moroccan Jews still remain the largest Jewish community in a Muslim country: 20,000 still live in Morocco. This figure represents 0.2 per cent of all Moroccans,

but 20 years ago it amounted to 2.3 percent. While Morocco boasted the largest Jewish community in the Maghreb, Algeria and Tunisia also had large Jewish groups. But when these countries gained their independence from France between 1957 and 1962 these 2,000-year-old Jewish communities quickly dwindled to

disappearing point.

In the arguments surrounding Middle East politics and the constant reminders of what life was like for Jewish communities before the establishment of the state of Israel, one very seldom hears about the North African Jews. Today North Africa is only partly in the conflict in the Middle East in so far as the three countries belong to the Arab World. King Hassan's attempt at bringing Jew and Arab together has not counted for much, and President Bouguiba's declarations about the need for dialogue between Israel and the Arabs may have been novel in the early 1960s but they no longer are today.

Jews settled in the area after the second destruction of the Temple and in the process converted many of the local Berbers to Judaism. Berbers were only too happy to adopt any stance which might annoy their Roman lords and masters. The story of those beginnings are well told in H.Z. Hirschberg's History of the Jews of North Africa published in 1974. The second volume of this scholarly work brings the story up to the 1950s.

The 16th century was one of turmoil throughout North Africa as Spaniards and Turks fought for control of the major cities, notably Tunis and Algiers. The Jews fleeing the rigours of the Inquisition in Spain were made welcome by both their brethren and the Muslim kings in the Maghreb. Many Muslims fled Spain at the same time and, in some places, entire Andalusian communities appear to have crossed the seas.

As before, the Jews tended to settle in special quarters in the great cities — the so-called mellahs — but their status as dhimmi was no worse than that of the Christians. They continued to partake in the cul-

tural and economic life of the city, often acting as political advisers, doctors and financiers to the sultans of Morocco or the beys of Tunis and Algiers. The distinction between Jewish culture — poetry and music, law and medicine — and Muslim culture was virtually non-existent.

Jews were very active in promoting trade links with European powers: between Algiers and Holland in the 17th century, Algiers and France in the 18th, and between Fez and Manchester in the 19th. They suffered no worse fate than many other intermediaries. Many Jewish links worked through the Italian city of Leghorn, on the Italian coast, a true international clearing house for transactions across the Mediterranean.

From the moment France set foot in North Africa traditional patterns broke down. The French ensured the Jews were better treated than the Muslims, provoking much bitterness. More secular forms of education attracted young Maghreb Jews and many broke away from their own traditional ways. This split the Jewish community, but Muslim resistance of such changes slowly but surely brought the Jews to the side of the conquerors.

France's decision to grant full citizenship to Algerian Jews in 1870 was a historic one. Since most Muslims could not become French citizens, the old links between the communities were broken, never to be rebuilt. Yet, it is interesting to note that the worst anti-Jewish riots witnessed during the Dreyfus affair took place in Algiers, at the instigation of the French settlers. Charles Drumont, a noted anti-Dreyfusard, was MP for the city, and a rabid anti-semitic he proved to be. During World War II, the

Vichy administration deprived Algerian Jews of their civic rights but Sultan Mohammed VI of Morocco refused to allow the French authorities to force Moroccan Jews to wear the star of David. In this he followed the example of the king of Denmark, but he is less often remembered in the history books.

In many ways Morocco was a special case because of the size of the Jewish community. Jews were settled not only in major cities like Tangiers, Fez and Marrakesh but also in the countryside. In the villages of southern Morocco Jews did not live in special quarters. They were closely integrated into the population. The story of the Moroccan Jewish community is vividly brought together in a book which groups the different papers given at a colloquium held in Paris three years ago. *la Communauté juive Marocaine* Moroccan Jews began to leave the country in the early 1950s, but they were prodded by the very alarmist propaganda put out by the Zionist organisations.

The fate of the North African Jewish communities was the result of history, French occupation and the foundation of the state of Israel. But to see how orphaned many North African Jews feel today points to the level of integration they enjoyed in some North African cities. That these should be the mainstays of Mr. Menachem Begin's coalition is more than ironic. What is so bad is that a major link between Arab and Jew has been cut; 2,000 years of history have come to an end. Only a few people in North Africa today are prepared to say how much they miss the presence of a thriving Jewish community. It certainly is to King Hassan of Morocco's honour that he should speak up so openly about his desire to retain that link.

Struggle for Dail majority

DUBLIN (A.P.) — Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald and his political rival, former Premier Charles Haughey, are locked in a crucial power struggle to form the Irish Republic's next government after a general election that left both short of an overall majority in parliament.

Whoever can secure the support of some of the seven independents, most of them leftists, who hold the balance of power will be elected taoiseach, Gaelic for prime minister, when parliament reconvenes next Tuesday.

Both Mr. FitzGerald, leader of Fine Gael (Family of the Irish), and Mr. Haughey have been holding closed-door horse-trading sessions with the independents for the last week, but so far neither has anything in writing and the struggle may not be resolved until the Dail, or lower house, reconvenes.

The scramble for power takes place amid the republic's worst economic crisis since the state was founded after independence from Britain in 1921.

Mr. Haughey appeared to be in the strongest position because his conservative Fianna Fail (Soldiers of Destiny) party won 81 of the 166 seats in the Dail.

That was too short of an outright majority. He needs to win the support of at least two of the seven minority party deputies or independents elected Feb. 18.

But the lone non-leftist is nationalist hawk Neil Blaney, an Independent Fianna Fail deputy, who will almost certainly back Mr. Haughey.

That leaves the six-problem for one independent to secure for the necessary 83-vote majority. The speaker of the Dail, elected from the deputies, has no vote.

Mr. FitzGerald, whose coalition of the more liberal Fine Gael and Labour won 78 seats last month, needs to win the support of at least five independents.

That means that he has to make sizeable concessions, particularly on economic policy, to them if he wants to secure another term as taoiseach.

Mr. FitzGerald Tuesday went into a huddle with maverick socialist Jim Kemmy whose vote brought the majority coalition government down in January over a proposed austerity budget. The election was called after the coalition was defeated 82 votes to 81.

Earlier, he got Fine Gael's approval to dilute his tough budget proposals for hefty tax hikes and welfare cuts. It was not known exactly what amendments will be made, but the authoritative Irish Times reported these will be the measures "most repugnant" to five of the leftists.

Deputy Fine Gael leader Peter Barry noted that "as a pragmatic politician, if I can put a deal together that has something in it for me and doesn't bend my principles, then of course I want to get into government."

But the big question was whether Labour, which holds 15 of the coalition's 78 seats, will back Mr. FitzGerald. The party is split on continuing in coalition with Fine Gael.

The leadership under Deputy Premier Michael O'Leary does, but the party's executive and much of the rank-and-file do not. If Labour breaks off from the coalition, it could form a loose alliance of the left in the Dail with the independents.

They include three deputies from Sinn Fein the Workers Party (SWP), political arm of the now-dormant and Marxist official IRA.

Mr. Kemmy has sought to forge a smaller alliance between himself, radical left-winger Tony Gregory and the three SWP deputies to support one side or the other for a year.

But so far he has made little progress, mainly because of SWP opposition to such a binding agreement. It wants to vote on issues as they arise.

If neither the coalition or Fianna Fail wins a majority next week, the republic will likely have to go to the polls again for its third general election since last June.

That will further defer legislation needed to resolve the country's worst economic crisis since the state was founded in 1921 after independence from Britain.

It has a record 10 billion-Irish pound (\$15 billion) foreign debt. Per capita, that's higher than Poland's national debt.

Unemployment is at a record high of 146,600, or 13 per cent of the work force. Inflation is currently at an annual rate of 23 per cent, the highest in the 10-national European Common Market.

The Irish Times noted in a somber editorial Monday: "The bluffs of the election has added to our economic troubles. It will be weeks before anything significant can be achieved. God save Ireland, indeed."

سكنا على الفهل

Reagan aides fear Congress may force changes in 1983 budget

SANTA BARBARA, California (R) — Senior White House aides said Sunday they feared Congress would force major changes in President Reagan's 1983 federal budget, cutting defence spending and modifying his tax reduction programme.

Some officials spending the weekend with Mr. Reagan at his California ranch thought the president would win his battle to keep the budget intact.

But the consensus among senior aides was that Congress, deeply concerned by the budget's projected \$91.5 billion deficit, would be able to make big major changes.

"Congress is going to try to impose its will on the president whether he likes it or not," one senior aide said.

The aides said Mr. Reagan would fight to the limit to keep the current tax programme, which cut taxes by five per cent last October and calls for further reductions of 10 per cent in July this year and

July next year.

On defence, Mr. Reagan regarded his proposal to increase spending by 18 per cent in the 1983 financial year beginning in October as sacred and untouchable, the aides said.

The officials said the president would stand firm on the fundamental elements of his tax programme but might be willing to raise some business and excise taxes to reduce the projected deficit.

Even that was far from certain, they said, recalling that in January Mr. Reagan agreed to propose excise tax increases and then changed his mind a day later.

Before arriving at his ranch on Thursday, Mr. Reagan stressed his determination to resist demands in Congress for tax increases and lower defence spending.

And he strongly defended his defence budget, saying the proposed increase was essential to meet Soviet military challenges.

German steel firms: Limping to the altar

By James Buchan

BONN — Marriages are made in heaven, not in Dortmund, and the engagement announced earlier this month between two of West Germany's largest steel concerns scarcely brought to mind a joyous, blushing match. One of the companies, Estel Hoesch, is still wedded to a partner in the Netherlands while the other, Krupp Stahl, shows every sign of being prodded to the altar by a despairing parent.

These are hardly good auguries for a partnership which will change the face of steel-making in the Ruhr and profoundly affect an industry that in Europe is now limping into its seventh difficult year.

If negotiations proceed along the lines laid down by the two supervisory boards, the end of this year will see a new giant steel concern with crude steel capacity of around 11 million tonnes, a workforce of 70,000, and sales of up to DM12 billion (\$5.1 billion).

But before Ruhrstahl comes into being, a host of questions must be answered. All that is known for certain is that Krupp and Hoesch, respectively the third and second largest German steel concerns, will merge many, if not all, of their steel operations into Ruhrstahl.

They will also make major investments for the modernisation of plant which will require massive assistance from Bonn and the regional government of North Rhine Westphalia, which covers the Ruhr. This last point is worrying other West German steelmakers, including Thyssen, and brightening the rest of the European industry.

The West German steel industry is widely regarded as the most efficient in Europe, working at some 61 per cent of capacity as against a European average of about 50 per cent. Considerable investment in continuous casting and other modern techniques, as well as a move into special steels, helped protect the industry while the domestic market, at just over 40 million tonnes, remained fairly buoyant in the first years of the crisis.

The past two years have changed all that. The persistent recession has bitten deep into demand while West German producers claim they cannot compete

with heavily subsidised steelmakers elsewhere in the EEC, who took 28 per cent of the West German market last year. Although Bonn has recently moved into the state aid business, the West German Iron and Steel Federation says that government help is insignificant in comparison with some DM 60 billion in subsidies given out to steelmakers in Belgium, France, Britain and Italy since the crisis began.

Even Thyssen, universally regarded as the soundest steel concern in the Ruhr, announced this month that it had lost some DM400 million on its steel operations in the year up to last September. Krupp was also badly hit and Dr. Wilhelm Scheider, the chairman of Fried Krupp, the parent company, was dropping strong hints of wanting to be rid of good of the product that had made the name Krupp so famous.

Worst off was the Estel concern, the international venture set up in the early days of 1972 between Hoesch and Hoogovens of the Netherlands and designed to make use of the Dutch company's competitively priced crude steel and semi-finished products for processing in Dortmund.

As conditions have worsened, the Ruhr industry as well as the authorities in Bonn and Düsseldorf have rapidly lost their confidence over subsidies. And, inevitably, the industry started looking at mergers as the best defence against recession and Hoesch, which chalked up losses of DM650 million in the past two years alone, was an obvious candidate. The question now is whether Hoesch-Krupp can succeed where Hoesch-Hoogovens had proved such a costly failure.

Krupp and Hoesch say yes. First, Krupp Stahl has diversified well into special steels and its 5.5 million tonnes a year of basic pro-

ducts, largely from a reasonably competitive plant at Rheinhausen, make a convenient source of supply for Hoesch's processing and manufacturing activities.

Secondly, Hoesch was being forced to shelve crucial modernisation plans. Last autumn, a crowd of Dortmunders demonstrated outside the factory gates when it became known that Hoesch was postponing an oxygen steel project which, with some DM240 million in official aid, would eventually replace three old-fashioned open-hearth furnaces. According to the supervisory board announcement, this plant will now go ahead.

Third, and most important, both Bonn and Düsseldorf have made clear that financial help is contingent on a restructuring programme which will protect jobs in the Ruhr in the long term. The sums required are almost certainly very much higher than the DM4.5 billion quoted as required for investment up to 1987. But the companies already believe they can cut up to 10,000 jobs relatively painlessly and stabilise the workforce at around 70,000 while securing the host of dependent jobs in steel-related and service industries.

The uncertainty surrounding the Estel concern is unlikely to be a block to further progress over Ruhrstahl. Estel has already announced that the profit and loss sharing agreement between Hoesch and Hoogovens has been suspended.

However, the negotiations over who is to foot the bill for losses already made, and particularly

Hoesch's losses in 1980 and 1981, are expected to be bitter and prolonged. Surprisingly, Estel has also announced that the involvement with Hoesch will continue even though the Krupp arrangement seems to remove all logic behind the transnational link.

The future for Ruhrstahl is clouded. Dr. Dieter Spethmann, Thyssen's chief executive, thinks that his group will be back in profit in the course of this year with the help of higher EEC steel prices. But the continued use of subsidies and uncertainty over new U.S. anti-dumping suits are unpleasant prospects for the German industry. Equally, the demands of the unions and politicians have already ensured that Ruhrstahl's investment is more ambitious than first expected. With the new oxygen steel works alone slated to produce 3.5 million tonnes a year.

Herr Ernst Pieper, chairman of the state-owned Salzgitter group, takes the gloomiest view. This may be partly because he, and the Bonn Finance Ministry, had hoped to see Salzgitter's troubled steel-making operations involved in the merger. Herr Pieper believes that West Germany can only afford two major steel companies. Thyssen and one other, instead of the present five majors and a host of minors. He also believes that some 15 million tonnes of capacity will have to be eliminated before the corner is turned.

— Financial Times news feature

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Iraq to increase share in World Bank

BEIRUT (R) — Iraq has decided to increase its share in the capital of the World Bank from \$69.8 million to 177.8 million, the Iraqi News Agency said Sunday.

It said the decision, taken by the ruling Revolutionary Command Council (RCC), was aimed at keeping a balance between Iraq's stake in the World Bank and its share in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which went up in 1980.

Tunisia, UAE to establish joint bank

ABU DHABI (R) — Tunisia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will establish a joint investment bank with a 50 million Tunisian dinar (\$100 million) capital under an agreement signed Sunday.

It was signed after talks by Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, who has been touring Gulf countries.

Mr. Mzali signed an agreement for a joint investment bank with Qatar with a 70 million Tunisian dinar (\$140 million) capital on Wednesday.

Like the Tunisian-Qatari bank, the Tunisian-UAE bank's capital will be shared equally by both countries and will finance industrial, agricultural and tourist projects in the North African country, according to an official announcement.

Tanzania to devalue currency by 10%

EAR ES SALAAM (R) — Tanzania said Saturday its currency will be devalued by 10 per cent from Monday.

The governor of the Bank of Tanzania, Charles Nyerere, told a news conference that the devaluation was "purely a domestic affair. It is not tied to any technical loans relationship."

Mr. Nyerere was apparently referring to reports that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has advised Tanzania to make a major currency devaluation. Official Tanzanian sources have said the IMF wants the country to agree to a devaluation of 120 per cent but that the government has rejected this.

Mr. Nyerere said the 10 per cent devaluation was necessitated by fluctuations in the U.S. dollar and West European currencies.

"It is hoped exporters will take full advantage of the new situation and help the country in solving the current balance of

payments difficulties," he said.

As from Monday, he said the Tanzanian shilling will be valued at 9.284 to the United States dollar. After that, the value of the shilling would be pegged to a basket of currencies.

Cardinals to study Vatican finances

VATICAN CITY (R) — A council of 15 cardinals appointed by Pope John Paul last year to look into Vatican finances will meet here in the week beginning March 15, according to the Vatican spokesman.

Don Pierfrancesco Pastore said the council would study economic and financial questions of the Curia (church government), and Vatican sources said the main topic was likely to be the shaky state of the Holy See's budget this year.

Pope John Paul first admitted that the Holy See was in financial trouble in November 1979. He called a unique conference of all the world's cardinals and revealed to them that the Curia's deficit for the year was over \$20 million.

Last July, the newly appointed council estimated the 1981 deficit at \$25 million and called for steps to improve the Curia's organisation.

Tourism chief criticises Scots

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (A.P.) — The chairman of the Scottish Tourist Board, Alan Devereux criticised his own countrymen Sunday for being "timid, negative and apologetic" about Scotland's attractions.

"We cover the outside of our pubs and restaurants with brown or black paint, dress our head waiters like undertakers and give the world the impression that we only live on haggis," he said at the opening of the international festival of food and wine in this northeast Scotland seaport.

Haggis is a traditional Scottish dish made from various sheep or calf organs mixed with suet and boiled in the animal's stomach. "Incoming visitors are surprised not to find colonel McSquadders Haggis carryons on every street corner," Mr. Devereux said. "It's an extraordinary state of affairs."

The tourism chief urged Scots to do more to promote their country's attractions.

"We are so timid, so negative, so apologetic," he said. "The product is right, but the marketing is wrong."

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For English-speaking, European family, with two small children. General household duties in addition to care of children. References essential.

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New deluxe furnished two bedroom flat, with spacious sitting room, two baths, two verandas; on ground floor with gardener and private central heating. In Shmeisani, near Tyche Hotel.

Call 811009 for more details.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

5:30 Koran
5:50 Laurel and Hardy
6:05 Children's Programme
6:30 Children's Programme
7:15 Local Programme
7:30 Local Programme
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Arabic Series
9:30 Panorama
10:15 Arabic Play
11:00 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French Programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Environmental Protection
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Comedy: Tosi
9:10 Hart to Hart
10:00 News in English
10:15 Brideshead Revisited
11:00 News in Arabic

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM

7:00 Sign on
7:01 Morning Show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning Show
8:00 News Headlines
8:03 Morning Show
8:30 30 minute Theatre
11:00 Sign off
12:00 News Headlines
12:03 Pop Session
12:30 News Summary
13:03 Pop Session
13:03 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 The Elton John Story
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:03 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 French way of Life
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:03 Sports Round-up
18:30 North by Sea
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Instrumentals
20:30 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT
04:00 Newsdesk 04:30 The End of the Affair 04:45 Notes from an Observer 04:50 Paperback Choice 04:55 Reflections 05:00 World News; 24 Hours: News Summary 05:30 Peabody's Choice 05:45 A Pattern of Faith 06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Musician at Large 07:00 World News; 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Country Style 07:45 Short Story 08:00 World News; Reflections 08:15 The London Bach 08:30 Baker's Half Dozen 09:00 World News; British Press Review 09:15 Notes from an Observer 09:20 Goods Books 09:35 Interlude 09:40 Look Ahead 09:45 A Word in Edgeways 10:15 The Instrument Makers 10:30 Smash of the Day: The Navy Lark 11:00 World News; News About Britain 11:15 Backtracking 11:30 The Reich Lectures 12:00 Radio News 12:15 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 12:45 Sports Round-up 13:00 World News; 24 Hours News Summary 13:30 Country Style 13:45 The Role of the University 14:15 The End of the Affair 14:30 Rock Salad 15:00 Radio Newsdesk 15:15 Outlook 16:00 World News; Commentary 16:15 A Man of Pleasure 16:45 The World Today 17:00 World News 17:09 Europa 17:25 News Ideas 17:35 Paperback Choice 17:40 Interlude 17:45 Sports Round-up 18:00 World News; News about Britain 18:15 Radio Newsdesk 18:30 Rhythm 'n' Roots 19:00 Outlook: News Summary 19:30 Stock Market Report 19:45 Look Ahead 19:45 Peabody's Choice 20:00 World News; 24 Hours News Summary 20:30 24 Hours News Summary 21:00 Net-work U.K. 21:15 Europa 21:30 Rock Salad 22:00 World News 22:09 The World Today 22:25 Book Choice 22:30 Financial News 22:40 Reflections 22:45 Sports Round-up 23:00 World News; Commentary 23:15 Classical Record Review 23:30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral?

VOICE OF AMERICA

03:00 Daybreak 04:00 The Breakfast Show 15:00 News Roundup: Reports, Actualities, News Summary 15:30 VOA Magazine Show: Americana, Science, Listener's letters 16:00 Special English News 16:10 Special English Science and Technology Report 16:15 Feature: This is America 16:30 Music USA: Standards 17:00 News Roundup 17:30 Date Line 18:00 Special English News 18:10 Science and Technology 18:15 This is America 18:30 Music USA: Standards 19:00 News Roundup 19:30 VOA Magazine Show 20:00 Special English News 20:10 Science and Technology 20:15 Music USA: Jazz 21:00 VOA World Report: News, Newsmakers' Voices, Correspondents' Reports, Analyses

AMMAN AIRPORT

NOTE: The following airport arrivals and departures are provided to the Jordan Times by the Alia information department at Amman Airport, Tel. 92205-6. They should always be verified by phone before the arrival or departure of the flight.

ARRIVALS

8:00 Cairo (EA)
8:55 Agaba
9:00 Cairo
9:00 Damascus
9:30 Jeddah
9:40 Dhahran
9:45 Kuwait
9:50 Muscat, Dubai
10:00 Doha, Bahrain
10:10 Beirut, Laraca
10:15 Abu Dhabi
10:55 Kuwait
14:10 Tripoli (LA)
14:25 Moscow (SU)
15:30 Kuwait (KAC)
15:35 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:25 Beirut
16:45 Bangkok
17:00 Athens
17:00 Cairo
18:05 Amsterdam, Beirut (KLM)
18:05 London (BA)
18:30 Paris (AF)
20:15 Cairo (EA)
20:30 Beirut (MEA)
00:20 Cairo (EA)
01:00 Baghdad
01:15 Cairo

DEPARTURES

03:00 Cairo
06:15 Frankfurt (LH)
06:30 Damascus
07:00 Agaba
09:00 Cairo (EA)
09:00 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York
11:15 Athens
11:30 Cairo
11:45 Geneva, Zurich (SR)
11:45 Tunis, Madrid
12:00 Paris, London
13:00 Beirut
15:30 Tripoli (LA)
16:30 Moscow (SU)
16:30 Kuwait (KAC)
16:35 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:15 Dhahran
19:30 Jeddah
20:15 Baghdad
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
01:00 Baghdad
01:15 Cairo (EA)

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:
Amman:
Tayseer Al Sa'di 77636/25952
Sa'id Rasheed 73500/68344
Zagaz:
Mahmoud Oumrah 85132
Ghazi Al Rosan 82938/82786

PHARMACIES:

Amman:
Nairoukh 23672
Al Hayah 24636
Fattaleh 37140
Qadiri (—)
Sarah 71140
Zagaz:
Al Sha'b (—)
Irbid: (—)
Falastin 2085
TAXIS:
Al Khayyam 41541
Al Ahzani 63911
Al Nahda 63006

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Hayat Arts Centre 65195
Al Hussein Youth City 67193
Y.W.C.A. 64251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 84355/84366

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr 4:33
Sunrise 5:55
Dhuhr 11:47
Asr 3:08
Maghreb 5:39
Isha 7:01

CHURCHES

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luw-eidh 37440
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman 24690
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein 66428
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali 23541
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman 23404

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 3 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal 100.4/101
Lebanese pound 71.4/72
Syrian pound 58/58.3
Iraqi dinar 650/658
Kuwaiti dinar 1210/1214
Egyptian pound 344.3/349
Qatari riyal 94.1/94.7
UAE dirham 93.7/94.2
Omani riyal 996.3/999.6
U.S. dollar 343/345
U.K. sterling 628/631.8

W. German mark

Swiss franc 146.9/147.8
French franc 185.8/186.9
Italian lire 57.2/57.5
(for every 100) 27.2/27.4
Japanese yen 147/147.9
(for every 100) 133.5/134.3
Dutch guilder 79.2/79.7
Belgian franc 59.9/60.3
Swedish crown

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Firstaid, fire, police 199
Fire headquarters 22090
Cablegram or telegram 18
Telephone:
Information 12
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls 10
Overseas radio and satellite calls 17
Telephone maintenance and repair services 11

MARKET PRICES

Tomatoes	120	80	Broad Beans	160	120
Eggplant (small)	200	160	Apples (Golden)	270	220
Potatoes (imported)	130	100	Apples (Double Red)	270	200
Marrow (small)	200	160	Apples (Starkent)	270	220
Marrow (large)	150	120	Lemons	270	220
Cucumber (small)	360	320	Oranges (Shamouti)	200	150
Cucumber (large)	300	240	Oranges (local)	140	100
Hot Green Pepper	600	500	Oranges (Valencia)	110	90
Sweet Pepper	500	400	Cauliflowers (white)	140	100
Cabbage	120	80	Parsley	240	240
Onions (dry)	90	70	Bonani	230	200
Green onions	150	120	Carrot	150	120
Spinach	90	70	Turnips	150	120
Coconut (piece)	330	280	Grapefruit	110	80
Beans	500	400	Beet	120	100
Bananas	260	200	Lettuces (a head)	100	70
Bananas (Mukammur)	225	180	Mandarin oranges	270	240
Pears	420	360	Cauliflowers (broad)	120	100
Garlic					

SPORTS



Prince Hassan leads Royal Jordanian Polo Club to victory in Karachi

The Royal Jordanian Polo Club, led by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan beat the Karachi Polo Club 7-4 in a polo exhibition match in Karachi last Wednesday.

The Prince, who was on a visit to Pakistan last week, is a very sound player of polo and plays regularly in Jordan.

During the match the Prince attempted angled shots. He scored three goals for the Royal Jordanian Polo Club.

In the first chukkar, the Karachi Club attempted successfully a fine goal but soon the Royal Jordanian Club equalised.

In the second chukkar the Karachi Polo Club again succeeded in scoring a goal and made the score 2-1 but shortly the Royal Jordanian Club equalised 2-2.

Prince Hassan then attempted some well-judged shots which soon altered the position. But by the end of second chukkar, the Royal Jordanian Club enjoyed a 5-2 lead.

In the third chukkar, the Prince made some quick moves and made the score 6-2.

In the next moment the Prince took the score to 7-2 with a fine shot.

The lead was too much for the Karachi Polo

Club. Gen. Jehanzeb, who made strenuous efforts to equalise the score but failed in his attempt.

In the final chukkar, the Karachi Club attempted some fine shots which resulted in reducing the margin by one goal, making the score 7-3.

On the other hand, the Prince tried hard to add to his Club's score but maintained the lead 7-3.

In the last minutes, however, the Karachi Club added one more goal to their score, making their tally to four against seven of the Royal Club.

At the final whistle, the score remained 7-4. The Prince was cheered for his victory against the Karachi Club. The Prince thanked the spectators by warmly waving.

Later, the PIA Managing Director, M.M. Salim, awarded the prizes to the winners. When the Prince received the prize for his team's victory, he was greeted with a big hand-clap.

The match was supervised by Col. Baig and Mr. Amin.

Bremseth crowned ski jump king

LAHTI, Finland (A.P.) — Ole Bremseth of Norway won the final ski jumping contest at the Lahti ski games and thus became the jump king here. He won also the first competition in the 70 metres hill Thursday.

Sunday's jump meet had to be switched from the 90 metres hill to the 70 metres and it was not clear if the competition could have World Cup status.

Bremseth became the second Norwegian double winner at the Lahti ski games. Oddvar Braeher won both the 15 kilometres and 50 kilometres cross-country races.

Bremseth rose to victory from 5th place with a good style jump of 83.5 metres, adding to his first of 84.5.

Finnish big hill world champ Matti Nykanen was second and Alfred Groyer of Austria third.

Rebel cricketers get standing ovation

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa (R) — South Africa re-entered the international cricket arena Saturday to a joyous accolade from a capacity crowd at the St. Georges Park ground where rebel English cricketers took part in a one-day match.

The game, played against a backdrop of international anger over the tour, was the first taste for 12 years of international cricket for South Africa, spurned because of its race separation policies.

The 15,000 crowd gave a standing ovation to captain Graham Gooch and Geoff Boycott as they strode onto the pitch to open the English innings.

Mexican Gomez wins Golden Marathon

ATHENS (R) — Mexico's Rodolfo Gomez Sunday won the first International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) Golden Marathon when he covered the race's original course from the town of Marathon to the old Olympic stadium in Athens in two hours 11 minutes 49 seconds.

Vladimir Kotov of the Soviet Union was second in 2:13:34 and Greg Meyer of the United States third in 2:14:34.

The 26 miles 385 yard (42 kms 195 metres) race started from the marble monument at the Marathon village where the Greeks defeated a Persian army in 490 B.C.

It traced some of the route taken by Greek warrior Pheidippides, who according to legend, ran with the news of the Greek victory to Athens and then died of exhaustion.

The course was used for the first-ever marathon race at the inaugural modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896.

Britain's Max Coleby was the first to arrive at a mound, five kilometres (three miles) from the start, which marks the burial place of Greek warriors killed in the battle.

The runners circled the mound and dropped olive branches on the tomb before heading for Athens.

The race started in cloudy weather with temperatures ranging from 13 to 14 degrees centigrade but heavy rain fell later in the race, making conditions awkward underfoot.

Gomez, 31, sixth in the 1980 Olympic marathon, shared the lead with Japan's Kunimitsu Itoh at the halfway mark with Norway's Bjerte Sletre in third place.

The pair continued in the lead as the race neared the centre of Athens and then Gomez began to draw ahead finishing with a burst of speed to loud applause from the crowd gathered in the all-marble Panathinaikon Stadium.

Itoh, one of the pre-race favourites, slowed down to finish ninth.

Probably the greatest drama at the recent World Team Championship occurred in the last qualifying round. Great Britain and Argentina were vying for the one remaining berth in the semifinals, and when they reached the final board, Great Britain needed only to break even on that board to qualify.

No one could have asked for a more exciting board. In the 'closed room, the Argentinian East-West pair had sacrificed in five diamonds after the British reached five clubs. They were doubled and had gone down two

tricks—300 points to Britain. In the open room, the Argentinians also reached five clubs with the North-South cards, and John Collins chose to double with the East-cards. West led the ten of spades, and it was soon over. Declarer covered with the jack and East won the queen. He returned the king of clubs, taken in dummy with the ace.

Declarer came to his hand with the ace of hearts, cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade. A diamond ruff provided the entry for another spade ruff to set up the suit. Then came a diamond ruff, and dummy's established spade was led. Whether or not East ruffed, the high trump and the spade already in the bag were the only tricks the defenders could take.

A trump lead would defeat the contract if the defenders are careful. Declarer can win, cross to the ace of hearts, ruff a diamond and lead a heart from dummy. East must play low. If he splits his honours, declarer can ruff, enter dummy with a diamond ruff and lead the jack of hearts. That pins West's ten and sets up the nine as a trick, with the ace of spades as the entry. That line was found by Dick Cummings of Australia.

So an errant opening lead allowed Argentina to earn a place in the semifinal instead of Britain, who had led for most of the tournament until falling off the pace in the last two days.

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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
© 1981 by Chicago Tribune

North-South vulnerable.
South deals.

NORTH
♠ A J 7 4 2
♥ J 9 6 5 2
♦ Void
♣ A 8 4

EAST
♠ K Q 5 3
♥ K Q 8 3
♦ A Q 8 7 6 4 2 10 9 5
♣ K Q

SOUTH
♠ 9 8
♥ A
♦ K J 3
♣ J 10 9 7 6 5 2

The bidding:
South West North East
Pass 1 ♦ 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 2 ♥ Pass
3 ♣ 3 ♦ 4 ♣ Pass
5 ♣ Pass Pass Dble
Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♣.

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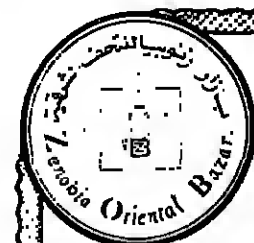
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Agaba
أغابا

METEOR Voy 7

19.2

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MARLENE Voy 4

5.3

8.3

15.3

24.3

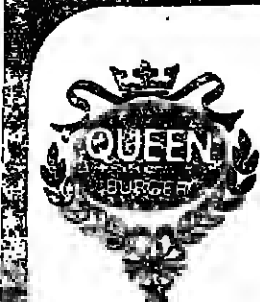
LOTTE SCHEL Voy 3

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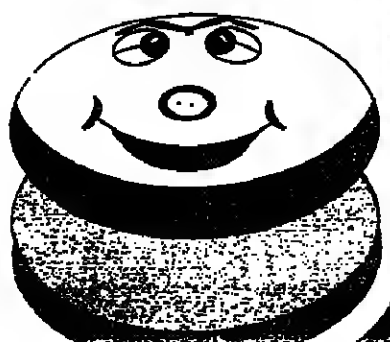


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هنا من الملك

City returns to life

By Roger Cohen

BRUGES, Belgium (R) — Fish have returned to the once polluted canals that wind through Bruges, brought there as part of a far-reaching campaign by the local authorities to renovate and clean up Belgium's "Venice of the North."

Begun about 10 years ago and now nearing completion, the campaign has aimed to restore the historic character of a city which was once one of the great trading centres of the medieval world and is now Belgium's top tourist attraction.

"Most of the sewerage from town houses used to empty into the canals, causing severe pollution and forcing fish away. We have now changed all that," Francis Decoster, spokesman for the city council, said.

Asphalted streets have been ripped up and replaced with the cobblestones that were formerly used, large areas of the city have been closed to traffic, hundreds of old houses restored, the town hall facade cleaned, and trees planted in squares.

As a result this city, home of the great Flemish painters Hans Memling and Jan van Eyck, now resembles more perfectly than ever the great trading centre of the late middle ages.

At that time, Bruges, with its immensely prosperous wool and cloth trade and renowned as a trading centre and port, had a population of nearly 40,000 — as high as London or Cologne.

With its beautiful Gothic churches and monasteries, its fine houses, prosperous merchants, and talented artists, the city riv-

alled Venice as a commercial and cultural centre.

But in the 15th and 16th centuries the silting of the Zwin estuary, which linked Bruges to the sea, political conflict and the rise of the port of Antwerp led to the city's decline.

This turnaround in its fortunes also meant that the centre of Bruges was left largely untouched by subsequent development, prompting romantic writers like the German poet Rainer Maria Rilke to find in it an image of silent and sad perfection.

It was the gradual decay of this city centre and its consequent abandonment by the population which prompted the city administration to embark on the campaign which had now ensured the preservation of old Bruges, Mr. Decoster said.

The multi-million-dollar programme has borne immediate benefits for the important tourist trade.

According to Jean-Pierre Druet, a director of the tourist office, more than 400,000 tourists visited Bruges last year, about five per cent up on the previous year and 25 per cent more than in 1975.

The renovation programme has also ensured that the exodus from Bruges city centre has stopped and the population there has stabilised at just over 30,000.

Last year nearly 10 per cent of the city's \$60-million budget went directly on renovation work.

Meanwhile, the economic future of the city has been bolstered by the success of the port of Zeebrugge, which is to celebrate the 75th anniversary of its inauguration this year.



Wing-door Mercedes still popular

BERLIN (INP) — Not only car enthusiasts in West Germany are fascinated by the famous 300 SL with "wing-doors". Today, the good name of the SL is carried on by the R 107 series. Since 1971, exactly 100,000 of them have come

off the line at Sindelfingen — a major success and a clear vote by roadster fans for this contemporary Mercedes-Benz concept — or so believes the German automobile concern. At this year's

300 SL rally in West Berlin, the famous Memorial Church provided an attractive backdrop for the two SL generations.

The tradition launched in the 300 SL is perpetuated by the 107

series. Recently, the 100,000th "SL" since the series began in 1971 — a 380 SL — came off the assembly line. The world-wide popularity of the roadster models is underlined by the high export rate — 78 per cent of production.

Keeping Goethe alive and well

FRANKFURT AM MAIN (DaD) — A competition is being held by Frankfurt city council and University and a leading publisher

to mark the 150th anniversary of Goethe's death on 22 March 1982. Competitors will be asked to list their five favourite poems by

Goethe, who was born in Frankfurt in 1749.

One aim of the competition is to find out the extent to which Goethe's poems are still alive and well in the German-speaking world a century and a half after his death. Another is to introduce a wider public to his work.

The competition is open to all, at home and abroad. Entry forms are available at bookshops in the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Competitors are merely asked to name

their favourite Goethe poems. Staff of the Johann Wolfgang von Goethe University in Frankfurt will check entries and find out which five make the running.

Prize-winners will be drawn from the winning entries. The prizes include a Grand Tour of Italy in Goethe's footsteps, a journey to Weimar in the GDR, where he lived and worked for most of his life and a visit to American pop artist Andy Warhol for an autographed copy of his portrait of the writer.



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VOLGE
DIPEW
ROGERF
HABLEC

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: SURLY DANDY THRUSH GROUCH
Answer: What the ghost came back to visit— HIS OLD HAUNTS



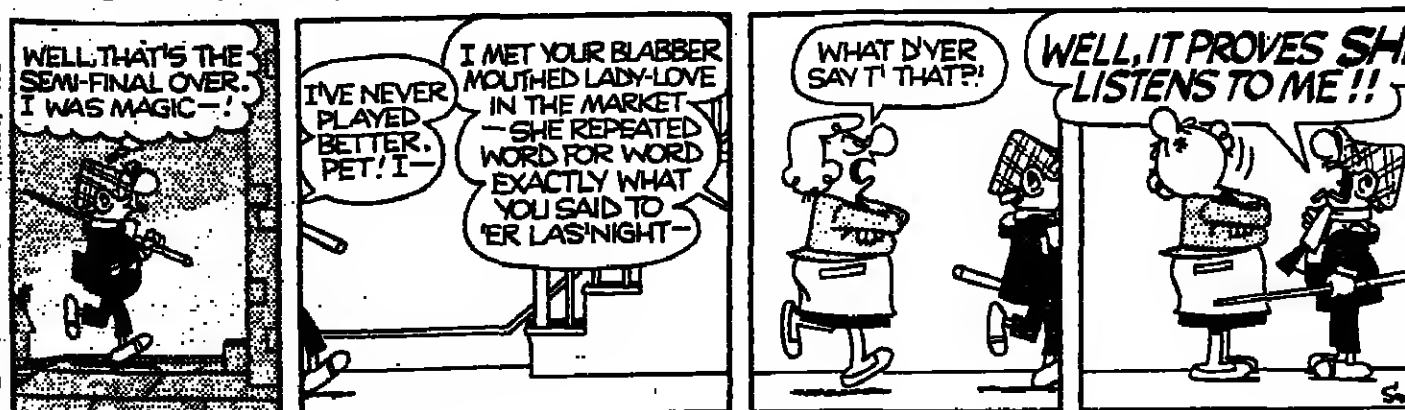
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



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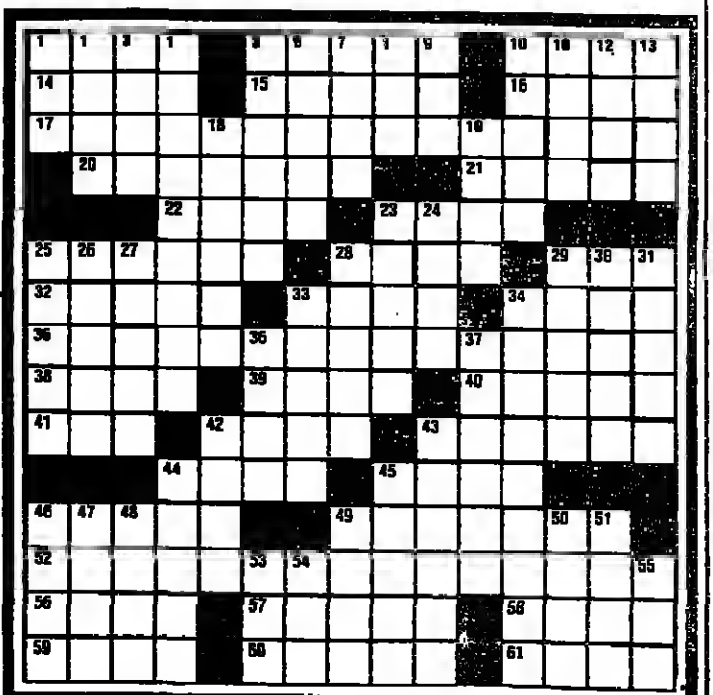
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THE Daily Crossword By I. Judah Keelyk

ACROSS	28 Circular dance	45 A Johnson	23 Insects
1 Oriental nurse	29 Gumshoe	46 Testify	24 Dies —
5 Chemical compound	32 Slope up	49 Maryland eneed	25 Herringlike fish
10 Revolution-ary martyr	33 Theta follower	52 Shakespear-ean play	26 Garment cut
14 Eastern princess	34 Heroic narrative	56 Commotions	27 Gold coin
15 Danny's daughter	35 Shakespear-ean play	57 Cherless novel	28 Halley comet
16 Yale men	38 Med. subj.	58 Zola heroine	29 Evergreen forest
17 Shakespear-ean play?	39 Argus had 100 eyes	59 Suite bread	30 Plume source
20 Seats for cabaleros	40 His name is Mudd	60 Impertinent	31 Personnel trainers
21 Progeny	41 Asian holiday	61 Nervous	32 Poem
22 Coze	42 Famed NY street	DOWN	33 Where the water ends
23 Explosive behavior	43 Corsair	1 — Nouveau	34 Factual
	44 "The —" Camus novel	2 Gulleit	35 Son of Poseidon
		3 Wild ox	46 Sea 46 D
		4 Second guesser's forte	43 Religious house
		5 Symbol	44 Goethe opus
		6 Medicine from or- child tubers	45 Tapestry
		7 — bien	46 Hamill vehicle, with 42 D
		8 Fraternal one	47 Expansive
		9 King: Fr.	48 Eden's school
		10 Literature Nobel	49 Poems
		11 Charity	50 Modified organism
		12 Stead	51 Caroled
		13 Anglo-Saxon laborer	53 Madison Avenue products
		18 Ukraine or Texas city	54 FDR bureau
		19 Famed Atlantic crossover	55 Uter

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

HAIR CUTS!
I MET YOUR BLABBER MOUTHED LADY-LOVE IN THE MARKET — SHE REPEATED WORD FOR WORD EXACTLY WHAT YOU SAID TO HER LAST NIGHT —
WELL, THAT'S THE SEMI-FINAL OVER. I WAS MAGIC —
I'VE NEVER PLAYED BETTER PET, I —
WHAT D'YER SAY T' THAT?
WELL, IT PROVES SHE LISTENS TO ME!!



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WORLD

Polish church faces most delicate moment -- Glemp

WARSAW (Agencies) — Poland's Roman Catholic primate, Archbishop Jozef Glemp, said Sunday the Polish church could be facing the most delicate moment in its thousand-year history.

The primate was speaking to a packed congregation at St. Michael's Church in Warsaw amid signs of mounting strains in church-state relations after nearly three months of martial law.

But in reiterating a call for national reconciliation, Archbishop Glemp avoided any mention of the latest conflicts over the jailing of a priest and the arrest of another.

He also said that Poland was eagerly awaiting the return of Pope John Paul to his homeland for a visit scheduled in August.

"The Polish church today faces a gigantic task, perhaps more delicate than any other in our thousand-year history," the crimson-robed primate said in his sermon relayed by loudspeakers to a crowd outside.

His renewed call for national dialogue followed reports that the leader of the suspended Solidarity free trade union, Lech Walesa, would be allowed out of detention for the first time since he was interned.

Meanwhile, Archbishop Glemp is seeking a "summit meeting" with the country's martial law ruler, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, within the next two weeks, the Sunday Times reported in London.

In a dispatch from Warsaw, the newspaper quoted church sources as saying Archbishop Glemp is "concerned about strained church-state relations and the danger posed by growing underground resistance to the martial law authorities." It said he was hoping to "revive the dialogue between church and state at the highest level before it's too late."

The two leaders are believed to have met last in early January at Gen. Jaruzelski's request.

The Times said that Archbishop Glemp, in "private audiences with Western visitors last week," had made known he is "worried about the possibility that young people might stage some kind of uprising in the spring or summer months which would result in much bloodshed."

Tensions between church officials and the martial law government are believed to have grown in recent weeks.

Last Saturday, Poland's deputy premier, Mieczyslaw Rakowski, met with church spokesman Alojzy Orszulik in what was seen as a new effort at church-state rapprochement.

U.S. launches spy satellite

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — The United States Saturday launched into space what was believed to be a spy satellite capable of spotting objects the size of a golf ball from more than 32,000 kilometres up.

The government issued only a brief statement saying that a U.S. Air Force Titan III-C was successfully launched from Cape Canaveral.

U.S. spy satellites launched in the past have always gone into stationary orbit 35,680 kilometres over the equator. From this point they can survey about a third of the Earth.

Pharaoh's boat goes on display in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Egypt put a boat believed to be the oldest in the world on display to the public Sunday for the first time since it was discovered in a pit next to the Great Pyramid 28 years ago.

Controversy surrounds the ancient vessel buried next to the tomb of the Pharaoh Cheops 47 centuries ago. Some experts argue that the royal barge, made from giant planks of Lebanese cedar wood, will disintegrate if it is not kept in closely controlled climatic conditions.

The discovery of the 43-metre long ship in 1954 was acclaimed at the time as one of the most dramatic finds of ancient Egypt since Tutankhamen's tomb was opened up 32 years earlier.

But it took more than two decades to house the elegant vessel in a museum and disputes about whether the building was suitable

held up its inauguration until Saturday, when Prime Minister Fouad Moeideen attended a ceremony along with the director-general of UNESCO, Amadou Mahtar M'bow.

Sunday-morning the first tourists were trickling into the angular, Italian-designed museum in the shadow of the Great Pyramid.

A six-Egyptian-pound (\$7.50) admission price was enough to put off one French group. Egyptians have to pay only one pound (\$1.15).

"We'll have to put the price up for Egyptians at the Louvre in Paris," grumbled one Frenchman from Marseilles as he stuffed his money back into his pocket and strode away from the ticket office.

The barge has been sitting in the museum for several years, but was only shown to visiting dignitaries like former U.S. President Jimmy Carter who was taken round the well-preserved vessels by the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. Kamal Al Mallakh, who discovered the royal ship propelled by 10 oars, rejected suggestions that the barge was not being looked after properly by the Egyptian antiquities department.

"You see it is not a powder. The wood is very, very solid," he told reporters before the opening.

Foreign experts, including Mr. Mallakh's former associate Milan Kovac of Sweden, had argued that the boat would disintegrate because the museum's desert location and inadequate air-conditioning turned the building into a hot-house that would warp the wood.

In her book, *The Boat Beneath the Pyramid*, author Nancy Jenkins wrote in 1980 that extremes of temperature and humidity were subjecting the ship's timbers to unbearable stresses and made its future uncertain.

NATO begins major war exercises today

BRUSSELS (R) — A major North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) command exercise starts Monday with a scenario featuring anti-Soviet moves in Eastern Europe, NATO sources said Sunday.

The theme of the week-long, high-level exercise, held every two years and aimed at training NATO officials in crisis management, is never officially announced.

The sources said this year's exercise, Hilex 82, is based on the assumption that East European states take some initiatives in an attempt to free themselves from Soviet domination.

But they said the exercise had no relation to the current situation in Poland.

It will involve NATO officials, member governments and the alliance's three major commands, covering Continental Europe, the Atlantic and the English Channel.

The sources said a similar exercise was cancelled two years ago because an actual situation pre-

sented itself to test the alliance's skills in crisis management — the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

The aims of such command post exercises, in which no forces take part, are to familiarise commanders and staff officers with crisis procedures, to evaluate their plans and to test communications and the process of allied consultations.

NATO officials, kept on round-the-clock duty, follow the evolution of the imaginary crisis from a "situation centre" at NATO headquarters here.

Similar but more militarily-oriented Wintex command post exercises have been held every other year since the 1968 Warsaw Pact intervention in Czechoslovakia.

Last year's Wintex exercise projected a maritime incident in the Atlantic, troop movements in Yugoslavia and Norway, a Western summit and the sinking of a U.S. aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean, the sources said.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Iran quashes rumours Khomeini on death-bed

BEIRUT (A.P.) — In an effort to thwart rumours reporting he is seriously sick, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini on Sunday accepted a group of Iranian soccer players at his north Tehran residence and urged them to spread the Islamic revolution to other nations, Tehran Radio reported. Sounding fit and jovial, Ayatollah Khomeini, who has a history of heart troubles, told the soccer players, "I am not a sportsman, but I like sportspeople." The state-owned radio broadcast a tape of Ayatollah Khomeini's speech to the athletes during its midday news bulletin, monitored here. The Ayatollah's sounded stable and energetic. He urged the athletes to spread the word of Iran's Islamic revolution to other countries in the region "because it is you who see people in your visits abroad."

Anti-withdrawalists block W. Bank roads

TEL AVIV (A.P.) — Ultra-nationalist demonstrators blocked several roads in the occupied West Bank Sunday to protest the army's eviction of illegal squatters from Sinai settlements, a military spokesman said. The protesters, from Jewish West Bank settlements, put up make-shift road blocks of cars and tractors on roads leading from Nablus, the West Bank's largest town, to the villages of Tulkhim and Qalqilya. The two roads connect Israel with the West Bank. Security forces removed the barriers, the spokesman said. Another road block was reported outside the West Bank settlement of Meholah, Israel Radio reported. Army troops have evicted nearly 200 squatters from four Sinai settlements since last Wednesday and have arrested 23 others for trying to re-enter the area. Israel is scheduled to withdraw from Sinai on April 25. When the area returns to Egyptian jurisdiction.

Indian newspaper criticises Begin's attack on Schmidt

NEW DELHI (A.P.) — The independent Sunday Statesman newspaper has criticised Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin for his attack on West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. In an editorial comment, the newspaper said: "The West German chancellor incurred the wrath of Mr. Menachem Begin last May when Mr. Helmut Schmidt expressed qualified support of the Palestinians' moral claims to self-determination and refused to categorise all PLO factions as 'terrorists.'" The West German chancellor is not the only one at the receiving end of what can only be described as Mr. Begin's ever-growing paranoia. Together with Mr. Schmidt, the former French president, Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, was accused by him of "unbridled greed and hypocrisy" in dealings with the Arabs. The British foreign secretary was "no friend of Israel" and his former deputy positively "anti-Zionist." France's offence against Israel is that it is the only NATO member which has been strongly critical of Tel Aviv's excesses.

Suspect arrested in politician's murder in Pakistan

PESHAWAR (R) — Police said they had arrested a suspect for the murder Sunday of a former governor of Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province. They said 67-year-old Arbab Sikander Khan Khalil was shot dead by a gunman who joined him during a morning walk in his village on the outskirts of this provincial capital. Police identified the suspect as Mohammed Tahir, a resident of Mr. Khalil's village of Tahsil Bala. Radio Pakistan earlier reported that Mr. Khalil had been shot dead by unidentified gunmen while walking in the village. Mr. Khalil was a prominent figure in the banned National Democratic Party (NDP), a component of the main opposition group Movement for Restoration of Democracy, which includes the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) of ex-Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Dublin contenders begin final round of haggling

DUBLIN (R) — Irish politicians began a final round of delicate negotiations Sunday in an effort to break the deadlock left by inconclusive elections before parliament meets to choose a prime minister on Tuesday.

Outgoing Prime Minister Garret FitzGerald and opposition leader Charles Haughey were battling for support from the seven independent and minor party deputies who hold the balance of power after last month's vote.

Mr. Haughey, a former prime minister who needs only three of those uncommitted votes for an overall majority, was meeting schoolteacher Tony Gregory Sunday before seeing the others Monday.

Like his six companions, Mr. Gregory was keeping his options open. Asked about his voting intentions he would only comment: "I honestly don't know at the moment, the final meetings with the party leaders will decide."

Five of the seven are left-

wingers — three members of the Marxist group Sinn Féin Workers' Party (SFWP), Mr. Gregory and Jim Kemmy, the man whose switch of support brought down Dr. FitzGerald's coalition in a budget vote in January.

The others are outgoing speaker John O'Connell and Neil Blaney, a friend and former cabinet colleague of Mr. Haughey.

Dr. FitzGerald faces the toughest task as his coalition needs six extra votes for a majority.

As he meets the independents Monday, he must also await the outcome of a Labour Party meeting on whether it will renew its partnership with his Fine Gael party.

Most of the bargaining in the last two weeks has centred on the 1982 budget, the issue on which the election was fought.

Dr. FitzGerald and Mr. Haughey agree that tough measures are needed to halt the country's economic slide. Both fought the election on programmes calling for sweeping increases in taxes on consumer goods.

But the left-wingers have said they want the tax burden shifted to company and property levies and Mr. Gregory demands more money for his constituency in depressed central Dublin.

Both leaders have submitted lengthy reports to Mr. Gregory on how they would develop the inner city.

Canadians start seal hunt amid herd of 50,000

CAP-AUX-MEULLES, Quebec (R) — Canada's controversial seal pup hunt has begun amid a herd in the west-northwest of the Magdalen Islands, with one observer putting the first day's kill at a possible 400 to 600 pups.

A fisheries department marine biologist, who flew over the herd Saturday, said he estimated there were 50,000 pups in the very large herd, covering an area 30 kilometres long and 100 kilometres wide.

He said he estimated that up to 60 per cent of the cow seals in the herd were pregnant and none of the pups already born was more

than four days old. The biologist said the cows are at their best for commercial fur after the pups are five days old.

The Greenpeace environmental group's ship, Rainbow Warrior, was approaching the seal hunt area to protest against the hunt, which began Saturday, but its progress was slow because of thick ice and high winds.

The hunt is also being observed by representatives of the World Society for Animal Protection from London and Boston.

The hunt began officially last week but its start was delayed until Saturday by bad weather and difficulties in locating a herd.

Pakistan dismisses torture allegation

ISLAMABAD (R) — The Pakistani government has dismissed an accusation by a leading politician that there were torture camps in the country.

A government spokesman was quoted by the state-controlled Associated Press of Pakistan news agency as saying the reports were "totally baseless and mischievous."

The military authorities and police are continuing a 10-day-old crackdown against alleged criminals and anti-social elements.

The government statement followed allegations by the President of the banned Jamiat Ulama-i-Pakistan Party, Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, who cited two places as torture camps for detainees.

The party leader told a meeting last Wednesday at Rawalpindi that the detainees were being tortured at Shahi Fort in Lahore, capital of the Punjab Province, and at a paramilitary rangers camp in Karachi.

He also accused the authorities

of arresting more than 10,000 people, mostly political workers, during the crackdown.

The spokesman Saturday said the figures of arrested persons appearing in a section of the press highly exaggerated and misleading.

No exact figures of the people arrested in the crackdown have been given since President Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq put the official count at 2,132 a week ago.

But figures released by local authorities put the total at about

3,000, most of them from Sind, the home province of executed former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Officials in Karachi said 158 more people were arrested in Sind in the past two days. They included "proclaimed offenders," "anti-social elements" and military deserters.

"Anti-social elements" is the name given by the authorities to members of the clandestine Al Zulfikar organisation which wants to overthrow the military government.

Amnesty, warning mark Ghana independence day

ACCRA (R) — Ghana marked the 25th anniversary of its independence from British colonial rule Saturday with military parades, an amnesty for prisoners and a warning from Flight-Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings that only hard work could rescue the country from its poverty.

The young chairman of the ruling Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC), who seized power nine weeks ago, took the salute at the parades in Accra's Independence Square.

He told a big crowd there that the dreams and aspirations of 1957, when Ghana became the first black African colony to gain independence, had become an illusion.

"We have failed to put our rich natural resources and fertile lands to effective use," he said, adding that only hard work and efficient harnessing of resources could help people out of their poverty.

At independence, Ghana was the most prosperous state in West Africa. It is now one of the poorest, with enormous foreign debts, an overvalued currency, and plummeting revenue from its main export, cocoa.

Former President Hilla Limann, who has been in detention since Feb. 11, Rawlings' self-proclaimed revolution, had planned lavish festivities to celebrate independence.

But the mood Saturday was simple and low-key.

Prisoners serving long sentences had them cut by half while those who have completed half their term were ordered freed by government decree. The amnesty did not apply to those convicted for mutiny, robbery and murder.

An official statement said, "The PNDC has declared Monday a public holiday for Ghana's 10 million people to devote to food-crop planting in their backyards."

In a radio broadcast Saturday night, Lt.-Lt. Rawlings said 1982 would be "agriculture year." Thousands of people joined him today at a farm east of the capital where he declared a Libyan-style "green revolution."

He is an avowed admirer of Col. Muammar Qaddafi of Libya and Tripoli has pledged to help Ghana with its oil needs.

Can Britain afford Trident?

By Leslie Dowd
Reuters

LONDON — Opposition is stirring in Britain to the soaring cost of keeping an independent nuclear arsenal and paying conventional forces to pay for it.

Defence Minister John Nott is soon to announce whether Britain will buy a new, costlier version of the American Trident submarine missile, boosting its nuclear arms bill by at least £2 billion. (\$3.6 billion).

Defence sources say Mr. Nott is hoping to neutralise opposition and make the deal more palatable by proposing that British firms make some of the parts for the Trident programme.

The Sunday Times reported recently that the Reagan administration offered to let Britain do some of the work, effectively cutting the cost of the new undersea missile-launchers and creating jobs at a time of record unemployment.

Mr. Nott wants the new missile and can almost certainly count on the backing of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, a proponent of a strong Western alliance, defence analysts say.

But influential members of her Conservative Party are angry at plans to cut back on ships, planes and men to help pay for Trident.

They include Keith Speed, her navy minister until he was sacked last year for his opposition to cutting the number of warships, and Winston Churchill, grandson of the wartime leader.

Lord Carver, chief of Britain's armed forces until 1976, is also against the deal.

They fear for the safety of shipping lanes in a future war, reflecting Britain's maritime imperial history.

But West European doubts about the willingness of the United States to fight a nuclear war over Europe must weigh in Trident's favour, according to analysts.

Britain comes under the U.S. strategic nuclear umbrella as a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) defence pact and already has squadrons of American planes equipped with nuclear warheads based on British soil.

Mrs. Thatcher in June 1980 chose the Trident-One to replace Britain's 64 ageing submarine-launched Polaris rockets and preserve a British nuclear arm into the 21st century.

The Trident has eight 100-kiloton warheads each capable of destroying a city. Britain decided it would build four new submarines to carry them.

Defence book-keepers calculated the cost at around five £5 billion (\$9 billion) spread over 15 years but the Pentagon presented the British government with a dilemma when it later began to phase out Trident-One and develop the more powerful Trident-Two.

Armed with 14 warheads, Trident-Two will have an overall range of 6,000 nautical miles, 2,000 more than Trident-One, and is expected to be effective against such targets as reinforced rocket silos.

"It makes sense for Britain to go for Trident-

Two," a defence expert said recently. "Obviously parts and delivery and so on will be easier if we are in line with the Americans."

Mr. Nott has been fighting to win the support of cabinet colleagues to buy the better rocket, informed sources say.

But critics question the mounting cost, already estimated at £7.4 billion. (\$13 billion).

Retired Air Vice-Marshal Stewart Menaull, a defence expert, calculates Trident will cost £10 billion by the time it goes into service in 1995.

"I see it as a very expensive luxury," he said. "It will seriously affect the conventional forces of all three services."

Mr. Speed, in a speech recently, said Britain would have to cut its conventional forces drastically to pay for the Trident.

"The Royal Air Force is desperately short of fighters," he added. "The Army is being cut in manpower, vehicles and equipment. Further cuts are rumoured. The navy is in the process of losing over 40 major surface ships."

Officials plan to trim service manpower to about 310,000, a cut of more than 20,000, in the 1980s. The 135,000-man army will lose 7,000 and the navy will take an even bigger mauling as 10,000 sailors are paid off.

Mr. Nott also plans to scrap nine frigates and destroyers in a major reshaping of Britain's sea defences. The delivery rate of the 385 Tornado multi-purpose jets intended as the country's front-line air shield is also being slowed.

A decision to close the historic Chatham Dockyard on the Thames estuary made some conservatives particularly angry, and the opposition Labour Party says it will reverse the decision if returned to power in the next general election.

Some 460 warships, including Lord Nelson's flagship Victory, now a national museum, have been built at Chatham since it opened in 1547.

Mrs. Thatcher says Trident will absorb three per cent of the defence budget. Critics put it closer to eight per cent.

Britain will next year spend around £14 billion on defence, some £1.5 billion more than in the current year.

Trident critics like Mr. Speed say Britain should adopt a less costly nuclear alternative such as land-based Cruise missiles or the seaborn Tomahawk, or refit Polaris, which has a range of 4,000 kilometres.

Whatever Mr. Nott and Mrs. Thatcher decide, political storm clouds hang over Trident. With the economy in the doldrums, there is a question mark over Mrs. Thatcher's chances of holding power in the 1984 general election and neither of the alternative governments wants Trident.

"Britain simply cannot afford Trident," says William Rodgers, defence spokesman of the burgeoning Social Democratic Party. "We have made clear from the beginning that it is simply a nonsense."

As for the opposition Labour Party led by Socialist Michael Foot, its official policy is to scrap all nuclear weapons.

Malaysia to open Gulf embassy

KUALA LUMPUR (A.P.) — Malaysia will soon open an embassy in one of the Gulf states, Prime Minister Mahatir Mohammad told reporters Sunday.

But Malaysia has not decided in which country the embassy would be based.

The prime minister made the announcement after his return from a tour of Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. Malaysia's ambassador to Kuwait now is concurrently accredited to the Gulf states.

Controversial war memorial unveiled in London

LONDON (R) — A memorial to Russians and East Europeans who died in Soviet prisons after being forcibly repatriated at the end of World War Two was dedicated in London on Saturday.

In the form of a fountain in a West London square, it was the fruit of an eight-year campaign by a group of public figures to preserve the memory of "the victims of Yalta" and remind the public of what they regard as a shameful and tragic episode in British diplomacy.

The sponsors collected donations totalling £20,000 (\$40,000) and persuaded Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to overrule

objections from the Foreign Office to siting the memorial on public land.

When it was approved last year the Soviet Union called it a "blasphemous outrage" which would honour traitors and collaborators who fought for Hitler's Germany against their own homeland.

Under the Yalta Agreement at the end of World War Two, the Western allies promised Soviet leader Josef Stalin to return to Soviet jurisdiction all Soviet citizens who had fallen into their hands.

There were about three million of them, according to Western historians who estimate that almost

half perished in Stalin's prison camps.

The Soviet authorities, critics claim, made little distinction between willing collaborators and traitors and those who had been forced to aid the Germans as slave labourers.

The critics say those repatriated by Britain included thousands who were not Soviet citizens because their exile dated back to the Russian Revolution and civil war.

The campaign for the memorial unveiled Saturday was led by a Conservative member of parliament, Sir Bernard Braine. The memorial was dedicated by the bishop of London, Dr. Graham Leonard.